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## Egypt confident of debt relief

CAIRO (R) — Officials voiced confidence as President Hosni Mubarak returned on Monday from a European tour that Egypt's appeals for international cash transfusions and relief on debts to the United States had succeeded. Mr. Mubarak told reporters he was satisfied with the results of his visit to France and while-stop talks with leaders in West Germany, Italy, Holland and Greece which officials said centred on Egypt's bid for International Monetary Fund (IMF) standby credits. The defence minister, Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, said he expected good news from Washington within 48 hours on Egypt's demand for steps to reduce its \$4.5 billion debt to the United States for past arms sales. "It is much better than we (Egypt) or you (the press) all expected," Marshal Abu Ghazala told reporters. He gave no details of what relief he expected for Egypt. But Egyptian sources said it would include a five-year grace period on repayments, which total about \$350 million this year, and a curtailment of interest from about 14 to 7.5 per cent. The weekly newspaper *Masara*, organ of the ruling National Democratic Party, said a bill on the issue would go before the U.S. congress shortly.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate

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## King congratulates Bahraini leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday sent a congratulatory cable to Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, congratulating him on Bahrain's National Day and on the silver jubilee of the emir's assumption of his constitutional powers. King Hussein wished the Bahraini leader, good health and happiness and the Bahraini people further progress and prosperity.

## Senator praises Egyptian leader

CAIRO (Agencies) — Deputy Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Hikmat Al Masri, currently on a private visit to Egypt, has praised Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his policy of enhancing understanding between Jordan and the Palestinians. He also urged President Mubarak to pursue his efforts, Mr. Mubarak "is faithful to the Palestinian cause and Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories have full confidence in him," Mr. Masri said. Mr. Masri, a prominent West Bank figure, was speaking on Sunday on Radio Cairo.

## Gammo elected committee chairman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lower House of Parliament member Abdul Baqi Gammo was elected as chairman of the House Educational Committee on Monday. Deputy Dr. Fawzi Shaker Al Jurkani was his rival in an election conducted by the committee. Deputy Mufid Al Mubashir was elected as representative of the committee.

## Kanaan returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Planning Minister Taher Kanaan returned home on Monday at the end of a several-day official visit to Rome during which he presided over meetings of the International Fund for Agricultural Development's (IFAD) board of governors. Dr. Kanaan said Petra the IFAD board of governors discussed means of developing the fund's role to extend support to pilot agricultural projects in developing countries. It also discussed the IFAD's budget for the year 1987 and its future plans, he said. Dr. Kanaan also attended meetings of the Arab Unity Studies Centre's board of trustees which were held in the Tunisian capital two days ago.

## 19% of Israelis want to leave

TEL AVIV (AP) — Nineteen per cent of young Israelis questioned in a public opinion poll released Monday said they were thinking about emigrating, the local Itim news agency reported. The poll was carried out for the immigration ministry by the Public Opinion Research Institute which questioned 1,200 Jewish Israelis. Nineteen per cent of the respondents aged 18 to 29 said they were considering leaving, Itim reported. No official figures on immigration are available but independent observers say most of the Israelis who have left over the past few years have been men and women in their twenties. According to these observers, up to 500,000 people have left the country since 1948.

# Rifai renews call for Arab support of W. Bank steadfastness

Federation of Arab chambers opens meeting

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said Monday that Jordan's action to support the inhabitants of the occupied West Bank and Gaza and strengthen their steadfastness in their homeland had foiled Israel's designs to swallow the occupied territories through evicting them from the land.

The prime minister called on Arab countries to join Jordan in helping the Palestinian people in the occupied territories to resist Israel's arbitrary measures and illegal action aimed at driving them out of their homeland.

Mr. Rifai, addressing the opening session of the 65th meeting of the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, said Jordan had kept open all channels of communication with the Arab people living in the West Bank and Gaza with the aim of preventing Israel from containing the economy of the occupied territories and achieving its expansionist goals there.

Mr. Rifai recalled that the Arab Economic and Social Council, in a meeting in Amman in September this year, issued a resolution calling on all Arab countries to open their markets for products from the occupied territories so that the Palestinian people could resist Israel's measures and about the Jewish state's aims and objectives.

Mr. Rifai said the aspired-for Arab goals "cannot be achieved without effective economic integration among Arab countries."

have emerged as a result. The Arab World possesses vast economic potentials and a strong Arab presence can only become a reality once economic integration among Arab countries has been achieved.

"This integration should not remain a dream but ought to be translated into practice, enabling Arab countries to remove all barriers that impede the flow of Arab goods and services across their borders.

"For its part, Jordan has created a suitable atmosphere for investments and has provided political stability to encourage such investments. The country's free economic system and freedom it offers to investors to transfer their earnings and the presence of laws and regulations that ensure the investors rights and privileges and tax exemptions have made Jordan an oasis for investment and a market that attracts foreign as well as Arab capital.

"Jordan's success in establishing major projects like the potash, fertilisers, mining and cement plants as well as maritime and land transport projects with Arab help point to the country's credibility and its continued efforts to work in coordination with other Arab countries.

"Jordan has also been able to conclude agreements with other Arab states and to set up holding companies for implementing numerous projects for further bolstering inter-Arab cooperation that can lead to all-out economic integration.

(Continued on page 5)

# Ghandour outlines approach on all levels to boost RJ

By Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — In a stepped-up effort to overcome obstacles posed to progress and development by the depressed Middle Eastern economy and political environment, Jordan's national air carrier announced on Monday it was launching new strategies to market the Kingdom's East and West Banks and tapping new international markets.

The airline also announced it was changing its name from Alia to Royal Jordanian (RJ) and the change was complemented with the introduction of new colours and designs of RJ aircraft's exterior and interior, employee uniforms, stationery, signs, ticket offices, lounges and public premises in Jordan and abroad, Ali Ghandour, chairman of the RJ board of directors, told a press conference.

The changes are designed to give the airline a new image and identity to enable the carrier to get a "wider and more identifiable corporate image," Mr. Ghandour told the press conference held at the RJ Gateway Hotel to commemorate the airline's 23rd anniversary.

A crown, in bold gold now adorns the tail of all RJ aircraft against a dark grey background together with stripes of red, white and golden yellow, forming the design of the fleet. The job was performed by the San Francisco based Landors and Associates, Mr. Ghandour said.

The corporation's new image, the airline's chief executive said, has placed emphasis on the name "Royal Jordanian," which identifies the airline with the country portrays an obvious relationship between our nationality and royal values.

This change, Mr. Ghandour said, will also be consolidated with

(Continued on page 4)

# Senate panel to call Regan to testify; Casey hospitalised

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Leaders of the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee have decided to call presidential Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan to testify under oath about his knowledge of the Iran-contra affair.

Senator Patrick Leahy, the committee's vice chairman, said Monday he and Sen. Dave Durenberger, the chairman, "will recommend to the committee that we ask Mr. Regan to come up and testify."

Earlier, the White House said it was willing for Mr. Regan to testify. Meanwhile, U.S. intelligence chief William Casey, a key figure in the Iran arms scandal, was rushed to hospital on Monday after taking ill in his office. A spokesman for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said Mr. Casey, 73, had reacted badly to a change in medication that he had been taking for the past week and was taken to Georgetown

University Hospital by ambulance. The CIA director was expected to be confined for "a couple of days, anyway," said the spokesman, George Lauder.

Lauder said Mr. Casey was conscious and joking with nurses. He refused to say why the director had been taking medication.

"I cannot discuss his personal life," Lauder said.

The hospital had no immediate comment.

Cable News Network (CNN) reported the CIA had said Mr. Casey was suffering from exhaustion as a result of lengthy congressional hearings on the Iran arms affair rocking the Reagan administration, but Lauder said, "I don't think anybody said that to them."

Earlier, the White House said Mr. Regan was volunteering to be the next major administration witness before congressional investigators.

## King calls on delegates to build for future

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday received delegates attending the 65th meeting of the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and called on them to work towards enabling the Arab World to confront challenges and build for the future.

His Majesty reminded the delegates of their special responsibility towards the future generations and called on them to acquaint themselves with Jordan's developments and plans for confronting challenges that threatened the Arab Order as a whole.

The King wished the delegates

success in their endeavours and in serving the Arab Nation.

Abdul Aziz Al Sager, president of the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry, spoke on behalf of the delegates at the audience. He thanked the King for hosting the meeting and said Jordan represented a model to be emulated by other Arab countries because the Kingdom had been able to achieve real progress in developing its trade and industry.

Mr. Sager also paid tribute to Jordan for its support for Iraq in the six-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

The audience was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem.



His Majesty King Hussein on Monday meets delegates attending a meeting in Amman of the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (Petra photo)

# ICHIH finalises declaration on basis for international behaviour

By Lamis K. Andoni

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The final plenary meetings of the Independent Commission on International Issues (ICIIH) concluded on Monday after formulating a declaration of humanitarian principles which will be submitted to the United Nations after two months.

After three days of closed-door deliberations, the participants put the final touches on the declaration which includes a clearly-defined set of principles that could serve as a basis for international laws and behaviour to prevent, or at least lessen, human miseries caused by natural and man-made disasters.

At a press conference they held on Monday, both His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and His Highness Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, who co-chaired the international body, explained that the declaration



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and His Highness Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan and Ms. Susanna Agnelli from Italy hold a press conference on Monday at the conclusion of the final session of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues

went far beyond the International Human Rights Declaration in that it defines universal codes of conducts on problems ranging from famine and poverty to the controversial use of nuclear energy.

The ICIIH declaration, which was not disclosed to the press, was the result of three years of

But as a member of the ICIIH explained to the Jordan Times the commission had no illusions that its proposal would receive an immediate positive response from U.N. members. "We have no illusions about an immediate cooperation by the world governments," he said. "But we hope that by defining these principles and making them known, people would start pressuring their governments to adhere to them," he added.

During the press conference, Prince Aga Khan said that the commission would mainly depend on the co-operation of non-governmental organisations and voluntary groups to promote the principles included in the declaration and raise the awareness of the people who in their turn would lobby for their governments recognition of these principles.

He said the ICIIH members.

(Continued on page 4)

## CIA said to have given Iraq intelligence information on Iran

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has secretly given Iraq detailed information to assist Iraqi bombing raids on Iran's oil terminals and power plants in the war between the two countries, according to a report published Monday.

The Washington Post quoted unidentified informed sources as saying the United States has supplied the intelligence, including data from U.S. satellite reconnaissance photography, to Iraq for nearly two years.

During the same period, the administration of President Ronald Reagan was covertly selling arms to Iran in hopes of freeing the American hostages in Lebanon and gaining influence with factions in the Iranian government.

White House spokesman Pete Rousell said Sunday night he would have no comment on the report. "We don't comment on intelligence matters," he said.

The Post reported that the CIA stepped up the initiative with Iraq in August by establishing a direct link between Washington and Baghdad to provide the Iraqi with better and more timely satellite information. With the link, the Iraqis could receive the information from satellite photos "several hours" after a bombing raid to assess the damage and plan the next attack, the newspaper quoted one source as saying.

The Post also quoted sources as saying CIA Director William Casey met in October and again in November with senior Iraqi officials to make sure the new link was functioning and to encourage more attacks on Iranian installations.

Since the summer, Iraqi planes have flown raids against Iran almost every day, bombing refineries, oilfields, petrochemical plants, factories, power stations, railroads, bridges and military bases.

The Iraqi raids have proved to be devastating to Iran.

## Palestinians harden conditions for Maghdousheh withdrawal

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Fatch, backbone of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and two smaller PLO factions Monday reinforced positions in highlands in South Lebanon, diminishing the prospects for peace with the Shiite Amal militia.

The Fatch commander in Lebanon said scores of fighters from the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and the Arab Liberation Front (ALF), two groups loyal to PLO Chairman and Fatch leader Yasser Arafat, deployed overnight in the strategic heights of Maghdousheh to buttress the Fatch garrison there.

The Fatch commander, who identified himself only by his nom-de-guerre of Alaa, spoke to reporters in Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

He said the three factions would not withdraw from Maghdousheh until Amal, the dominant Shiite faction, lifts its siege of refugee camps in Beirut and the South Lebanon city of Tyre and "until we obtain solid guarantees that Amal will not deploy in the positions we vacate."

Local reporters said fighters of the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) have evacuated their positions in Maghdousheh, which overlooks Sidon and commands the coastal highway linking South Lebanon with Sidon and Beirut. Some of these positions were taken over by

militiamen of the Hizbollah (Party of God) on Sunday.

The withdrawal was part of an Iranian-brokered plan to end three weeks of Amal-Palestinian bloodshed in which 513 people were killed and 1,265, by police count.

In Baghdad, a PLO spokesman said the organisation would agree to an immediate ceasefire at the embattled Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon if Amal was to meet certain preconditions.

He said the conditional agreement by the PLO followed contacts with Lebanese national parties and Palestinian groups in Lebanon as well as "some Arab and friendly capitals."

The PLO leadership approved the ceasefire agreements with two conditions:

"First — a comprehensive and immediate ceasefire and an end to the siege on all Palestinian camps in Beirut and South Lebanon."

"Second — an immediate military handover from all positions in Maghdousheh now under Palestinian forces to Islamic and Lebanese national forces, which were not involved in the battles against the camps," the PLO spokesman said.

The PLO spokesman said the positions at Maghdousheh could be handed over to the Hizbollah, the Islamic groups in Sidon, the Progressive Socialist Party and the Nasrist Popular Organisation (Maarouf Saad).

He said Mr. Arafat on Monday

saw the Soviet ambassador in Iraq, Victor Menin, and gave him a letter for the Soviet leadership on the ceasefire agreement.

The PLO spokesman, deputy military commander of the PLO Khalil Al Wazir, said the handover at Maghdousheh should take place "in such a manner that prohibits using the positions in Maghdousheh as a centre for aggression and harm against Sidon and the camps."

Syria and Libya have agreed to act as guarantors of the Iranian-brokered peace plan to consolidate the ceasefire called at sundown Saturday.

Under the plan, the Palestinians would withdraw from the Maghdousheh highlands. In exchange Amal will call off the siege imposed on Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh as well as Tyre's Rashidiyyeh camp.

A police source in Sidon told AP the differences between Amal and the PLO regarding the Iranian peace initiative focus on "priorities."

"Amal wants the Palestinian withdrawal from Maghdousheh to be the first step while the PLO fighters want the siege imposed on the three camps lifted before any pullbacks," said the source.

In Tunis Arab diplomatic sources said Arab League foreign ministers would meet in emergency session for the second time in two weeks on Monday to discuss the "camps war" in Lebanon.

## OPEC strives hard for accord

GENEVA (AP) — OPEC leaders quickened the pace of negotiations Monday on cutting oil production to raise prices but could reach no final agreement.

The president of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Rikman Lukman, told reporters the group was close to an agreement on individual production quotas.

Mr. Lukman, who is also the chief Nigerian delegate, declined to provide details of the day's talks.

Officials said the 13 oil ministers would meet again Tuesday afternoon, but no specific hour was set.

Venezuela's Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti told reporters, "We are moving." He

did not elaborate.

One delegation source who was present during the two-hour plenary session said the key obstacle to agreement on cutting oil production was Iraq's refusal to accept a quota lower than that of Iran.

In an apparent sign of Baghdad's displeasure, Iraqi Oil Minister Qassem Taqi Al Omairi did not attend the meeting although he was in the same hotel where the closed-door talks were held. His delegation was headed by his deputy, Ramzi Salmon Abdul Hussain, delegation sources said.

A senior Iraqi delegate, speaking after the meeting on condition he not be identified, said his country had not dropped its demand for equal treatment with

Iran.

"There has been absolutely no change, there will be absolutely no change," he said. Asked whether Iraq was open to compromise, he said, "it's up to the others."

Both Iran and Iraq are desperate for oil revenues to finance their war, now in its seventh year.

Iraq, which currently has no OPEC quota, is producing about 1.7 million barrels. Iran, whose official OPEC quota is 2.3 million barrels daily, has been limited to an estimated 1.6 million barrels a day as a result of war damage to its oil terminals.

Several ministers attempted to paint a bright picture of what has lapsed into a lengthy and difficult negotiation.

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# Switzerland blocks U.S. arms-for-Iran account

BERNE (R) — Switzerland agreed Monday to a U.S. request to block a Geneva bank account believed to be linked to controversial U.S. arms sales to Iran, the Justice Ministry said.

Officials told reporters the freeze was imposed Monday morning and would last initially for a month, giving U.S. officials time to meet all the requirements for an indefinite freeze. Other Swiss bank accounts were also under scrutiny.

The move is part of a U.S. bid for legal assistance aimed at lifting Swiss banking secrecy to aid the investigation into the arms sales.

The officials said Washington's request cited three unnamed people accused by the U.S. authorities of violating their official duties and of financial crimes.

Part of payments received for U.S. arms sales to Iran is alleged to have been diverted through Swiss banks to right-wing contra rebels in Nicaragua.

Washington first applied for

Swiss help in tracking the accounts a week ago but Bern rejected the request as not meeting the necessary criteria.

In particular, it failed to make clear whether criminal investigations had already begun against the people involved.

However, the Justice Ministry said a further, satisfactory request came on Saturday.

Unlike the earlier request, this was based on a 1977 treaty between Switzerland and the United States rather than a general Swiss law on legal assistance.

Switzerland grants legal assistance only in the cases of those already under investigation elsewhere for alleged crimes that would also be punishable under Swiss law.

Credit Suisse, which

acknowledged that the account was at one of its branches, effectively blocked it after indications that the United States intended to apply for legal assistance.

However, the bank, Switzerland's third-biggest, has declined all comment on a second account that government sources say is also at Credit Suisse.

The month-long period allows the United States time to provide translations into one of the three official Swiss languages — probably French — of the documents supplied in English.

Swiss officials said U.S. investigators have named three people as being connected to the accounts, but be declined to identify them.

A Justice Ministry spokesman said last week that one is Lt. Col. Oliver North, who was fired as a White House aide because of his alleged involvement in the affair. Another is believed to be retired Air Force Gen. Richard Secord, according to sources.

## Shamir, Peres continue to differ over peace conference

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres have said that the Israeli government is engaged in moves towards convening an international conference on the Middle East, but the two leaders differed on the framework and proposed working of the conference.

Mr. Peres was quoted as telling a visiting European parliament delegation that Israel was seeking agreement with Arab countries on the framework for the proposed conference. Mr. Shamir told the same delegation on Monday that though he was not opposed to a multi-party conference he did not believe that such a forum could replace direct talks between Israel and the Arabs. He said the conference, if convened, should not last more than a few days.

"Any international conference that lasts more than a few days will not have a positive result," Mr. Shamir said. He said a combined Arab delegation would drift toward extremism, and "moderate opinions would not find expression."

Mr. Shamir told the 11-member delegation that Europe should try to encourage the Arab states to negotiate, but otherwise the Europeans "cannot play a very important role in our area."

Mr. Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc, appeared to have softened his flat opposition to an international conference after becoming prime minister in October.

Mr. Shamir said that the national unity government in which his Likud bloc and Peres' Labour party are the main partners, could be brought down by ideas tabled by Arab states at such a forum.

The national unity government could end if some Arab countries brought proposals

for peace which would be acceptable to one party and not to the other," he said.

Likud opposes the return of any Arab territory captured by Israel while Labour favours a territorial compromise. Their coalition agreement says there can be no change in the current status of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Peres told the European parliamentary delegation that Israel would continue its West Bank policy which he said aims to ensure the "security of all residents" and "improve the quality of life" in the area.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Micha Ronen said Mr. Peres also told the delegation Israel would soon have to come to an agreement with Arab states about the character of an international peace forum.

The minister said such an agreement could be reached without the direct intervention of the United States, provided Washington approved of the accord, the spokesman added.

In September, when Mr. Peres was prime minister, he agreed during a summit with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to set up a committee to prepare for such an international peace conference.

Mr. Mubarak, flying in from Europe late Sunday night, said he wanted to get an international Middle East peace conference started and to achieve this, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should accept United Nations resolutions recognising Israel.

He said Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu briefed him on recent talks with PLO officials and pledged to try to get the PLO to accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

## Waite reportedly was in close touch with North

NEW YORK (R) — Church of England hostage negotiator Terry Waite was in close touch with a key figure in the Iran arms scandal while the United States was selling arms to Iran, allegedly in return for the freedom of U.S. hostages, the newspaper U.S.A. Today reported.

It said Mr. Waite may have met Lt. Col. Oliver North, then a member of the White House National Security Council (NSC) staff, on six occasions in 1985 and 1986.

It quoted Robert Oakley, former head of the State Department's Office for Combating Terrorism, as saying the two men met frequently as Col. North worked to free U.S. hostages held in Beirut.

"North was the principal man on the hostage thing and he was entrusted with using all means to that end," Mr. Oakley was quoted as saying.

Col. North was fired from the NSC last month after Attorney-General Edwin Meese revealed that between \$10 million and \$30 million paid by Iran for U.S. arms had been diverted to U.S.-backed contra rebels fighting the leftist Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Mr. Oakley said Col. North had helped Mr. Waite in his attempts to free hostages by obtaining "facilitative assistance" for him in the shape of planes, shelter and protection.

In addition, Mr. Oakley said, Mr. Waite received help from U.S. ambassadors in Britain, Lebanon, Syria and Cyprus, using U.S. embassies as "safe houses" and sometimes briefed U.S. officials in Washington.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Aden rules out reconciliation

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — President Heider Al Attas of South Yemen has ruled out any reconciliation with his ousted predecessor, Ali Nasser Mohammad, a magazine reports. Last month, Mr. Nasser Mohammad surfaced in Damascus and said Syria was working hard to divide between Marxist factions in South Yemen, but the latest statement by Mr. Attas appeared to dampen such hopes. "We overcame the catastrophe in South Yemen and we refuse reconciliation with the former president," Mr. Attas was quoted as saying by the Saudi Arabian weekly Al Majalla, published in London. The interview with Mr. Attas, conducted in the South Yemen capital, Aden, was published in the magazine's latest issue, which came out Dec. 10 and reached Nicosia on Monday. Beginning Jan. 13, Aden was torn by 12 days of violence between the groups led by Mr. Attas and Mr. Nasser Mohammad, which ended with the ouster of Mr. Nasser Mohammad. Diplomatic observers said the fighting left more than 10,000 people dead.

### U.N. soldier wounded in S. Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — A Ghanaian U.N. soldier was wounded in South Lebanon Monday by mortar bombs fired from an Israeli-controlled village, a spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said. "The soldier was taken to UNIFIL's hospital in Naqura with medium injuries," spokesman Timur Goksel said. He said three mortar bombs were fired on a U.N. post in Majdel Salim from Houla, a village controlled by Israeli forces and militiamen of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) close to the Israeli border. Two U.N. posts manned by Irish forces were attacked with machine-gun fire, at least one of them by the SLA, but there were no casualties, Goksel said. An Irish soldier died on Dec. 6 from SLA gunshot wounds, the 138th UNIFIL fatality since the force first deployed near the Israeli border in 1978.

### AUB dean escapes kidnap attempt

BEIRUT (R) — The dean of engineering at the American University of Beirut (AUB) has escaped a kidnap attempt in Muslim west Beirut, the latest in a series of attacks on university staff, AUB sources said Monday. Nassir Sabah, a Sunni Muslim Lebanese in his early 50s, struggled free from gunmen who held him briefly as he drove from Beirut airport to the AUB Sunday, the sources said. In October, AUB authorities threatened to close down the 120-year-old university because of deteriorating security. Most of the AUB's foreign staff have left after a spate of kidnappings of Westerners in Beirut over the past 2½ years.

### Koran competition to open next month

JEDDAH (R) — An international contest on reading from the Koran has attracted entrants from 33 countries, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. The competition, to be held in the Holy City of Mecca from Jan. 17, carries prizes worth \$80,000 (S240,000). The contest, which includes a section on memorising the entire Koran, is being organised by the Saudi Pilgrimage Affairs and Endowments (AWKAF) ministry.

### Soviet, Libyan aides hold talks

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze began talks with Libyan Foreign Minister Secretary Kamel Hassan Al Mansour in Moscow Monday, the official news agency reported. TASS said Mr. Mansour flew to Leningrad on Friday and arrived in Moscow Sunday but gave no details of the talks. The last Soviet visit by a senior Libyan official was in May, when Abdul Salam Jalloud, deputy to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, had talks in Moscow with Kremlin Chief Mikhail Gorbachev and Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov.

### Ivory Coast embassy moved to Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Ivory Coast has moved its embassy to Tel Aviv after Arab states protested its location in occupied Jerusalem, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday. "The move does not surprise us. The Ivory Coast told us several months ago they were transferring to Tel Aviv," said spokesman Micha Ronen. The embassy was moved Sunday. The African country re-established diplomatic ties with Israel in September after a 13-year break and set up its embassy in Jerusalem. Only two countries — Costa Rica and Honduras — have their embassies in Jerusalem. Other countries, including the United States, do not recognise Jerusalem as the Israeli capital because Israel annexed the city's Arab sector after occupying it in 1967.

## U.S. fears closer Soviet-Iran ties

WASHINGTON (AP) — Last week's visit to Iran by a senior Soviet delegation has reinforced U.S. fears of closer ties between Tehran and Moscow, even though Iranian leaders made clear their distrust of the Kremlin.

American officials, eyeing Iran's long northern border with the Soviet Union and key location along Gulf oil routes, have long been haunted by the specter of greater Soviet influence, and possible control, in Iran.

"We are watching and listening," said one State Department official, noting that although Iran and the Soviets were talking about expanding trade, Iranian officials used the occasion to denounce Moscow for sending troops to Afghanistan and arms to Iraq, the two nations that

countries after the 1979 revolution, said Khosrow Shakeri, an Iranian scholar at the Kennan Centre for Advanced Russian Studies in Washington.

U.S. officials agreed. "It's part of a continuation of Iran's efforts to normalise relations with other nations," said a U.S. analyst who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Mr. Katushev's mission, officially the 10th ministerial meeting of the Permanent Commission for Soviet-Iranian Cooperation, was originally scheduled in 1980 but was delayed for six years because of bilateral friction.

The Soviet Union maintains an embassy in Tehran, in contrast to the United States, which severed diplomatic and trade ties after Iranian militants seized the U.S. embassy on Nov. 4, 1979, and held 52 Americans hostage.

Reflecting long-standing

American concern about Soviet influence in Iran, President Ronald Reagan, in a recent speech explaining his sale of arms to that country, said: "Geography explains why the Soviet Union has sent an army into Afghanistan and, if they could, Iran and Pakistan."

The American fear is that Iran may become more chaotic when revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini dies and fall under Soviet influence. Iranian leaders are clearly wary of the Soviets.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati told Mr. Katushev that the presence of Soviet troops was "detrimental to the interests of the region."

The Iranian president, Ali Khamenei, said that "the issue of Afghanistan can only be settled once an independent and popular government comes to power in Afghanistan."

## Negotiators likely to miss target for agreement on Iranian funds in U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Negotiators attempting to settle financial questions left by the 1979-80 break in U.S.-Iranian relations are likely to miss a Dec. 20 target for a pact to return \$500 million the United States owes Iran, a U.S. official said.

There has been no indication, however, that the Tehran government will walk out of the talks or ask an international court to force an immediate payment, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Experts of the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank and the Iranian equivalent, the Bank Markazi, have been meeting quietly in Europe to try to reach an accord on the repayment.

The official said the negotiators have ignored the U.S.-Iran arms sale controversy as they work toward a settlement and that the Iranians are "proceeding in a workmanlike manner."

Asked if the negotiation could

be affected by the arms furor at some future date, the official said, "we hope not."

The Netherlands-based U.S.-Iran Claims Tribunal said last summer that if the two sides could not agree by Dec. 20 on a formula for finishing the dispute, either side could return to the court to settle remaining issues.

"I'd be surprised if there is an agreement by then," said the official. "I also would expect both sides to keep plugging away rather than take it back to the tribunal."

The court is composed of equal numbers of judges from Iran, the United States and third countries.

Under the agreement that led to the release of U.S. embassy hostages in Tehran in January 1981, Iran deposited \$3.7 billion with the U.S. Federal Reserve to pass along to U.S. members of International Bank Syndicates that had loaned money to Iran during its pre-revolutionary days.

The official said that during

1980 Iran secretly paid off some loans to non-U.S. members of the banking syndicates, in an apparent effort to keep a good credit rating with those institutions. Under syndicate rules, the foreign banks were obliged to pass along a share of the money to its U.S. banking partners.

As a result, the U.S. Federal Reserve had about \$350 million left over when the repayment process was finished. With interest, the amount has swelled to slightly more than \$500 million owed to Iran.

The key issue to be settled in the negotiation is the exact amount of the repayment. To help it reach that figure, the Federal Reserve put out a final notice giving banks until Nov. 17 to file any remaining claims on the money.

Once Iran is satisfied that it is getting back all its money, it will be required to declare an end to its claims on the fund.

## 5 reported killed in Iranian protests

PARIS (R) — At least five people were killed and dozens injured in fighting with Iranian Revolutionary Guards following anti-government protests in Iran, in southern Tehran, the Mujaheddin bureau here said.

About 5,000 people, led by opposition Mujaheddin activists, went on a rampage for more than 12 hours last week, the bureau said Sunday.

They tore down posters of spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini then attacked a courthouse, destroying documents and setting fire to the building, the bureau said in a statement.

Forty government vehicles were burned during the disturbance, it added.

## Khomeini helps assemble case against Hashemi

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, helped assemble the case against a detained Muslim extremist and relative of his designated successor Ayatollah Hossein-Ali Montazeri, a government minister disclosed.

Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahi, minister in charge of internal security, told a televised news conference that Mehdi Hashemi and 40 followers held with him are now suspected of 15 murders. They also had a "hit list" including the name of a senior clergyman.

Investigations in Tehran had led to a house, linked to Hashemi, where security men found two truck-loads of secret documents, weapons and explosives including booby-trapped boxes of sweets, shoes, pens and remote-control model planes, Mr. Reyshahi said. Hashemi, sobbing, said in a

televised confession last week that he chose Montazeri's office as a base to further his aims because his brother Hadi was the ayatollah's son-in-law and chief of staff.

But a statement from Montazeri later said Hashemi had no role whatsoever with either his office or the theological schools connected with him.

In a letter to Khomeini Monday, Montazeri also called for the prosecution of Hashemi and his followers in accordance with Islamic justice.

"Let his, or others', relation to me or anyone, or deference to this or that personality, not hinder the investigation and prosecution, for guarding the dignity of Islam and preventing deviations in dear Islam, the holy revolution and the clergy, takes precedence over everything," he said in the letter read on Tehran radio.

## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION  
Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE  
15:30 News Summary  
15:35 Cartoons  
16:10 Children programmes  
16:55 Astronomy  
17:30 Houston Hospitals  
18:00 Religious programme (Fatah)  
18:30 Arabic series  
19:25 News programme  
19:50 Programme review  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Arabic series  
21:30 Tomorrow's programme  
21:35 Local varieties programme  
23:00 News summary in Arabic  
23:15 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO  
17:30 Tenue de soirée  
19:30 News in French  
19:35 L'actualité des peuples  
19:40 News Summary  
19:45 Varieties  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Humanism (documentary)  
21:00 Music Box  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 Simon and Simon

RADIO JORDAN  
83.5 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM  
& partly on 95.0 KHz, SW  
774111-19

07:00 Light Music  
07:30 News Desk  
08:00 Morning Show  
10:00 News Summary  
10:05 Morning Show Cont.  
11:00 Oriental Folia  
11:15 Your Health  
11:30 Morning Show  
12:00 News Summary  
12:05 Readings  
12:30 News Summary  
13:05 Pop Session Cont.  
14:00 News Bulletin  
14:10 Instrumentals  
14:30 New Music  
15:00 Concert Hour  
16:00 News Summary  
16:05 Instrumentals, Old Favourites  
17:00 Science Report  
17:30 Pop Session  
18:00 News Summary  
18:05 Top Twenty  
18:45 Newsdesk  
19:30 Date with a Star  
20:00 Evening Show  
21:00 News Summary  
21:05 Evening Show Cont.

21:55 News Summary  
22:00 Evening Show Cont.  
23:00 News Summary  
23:05 Evening Show Cont.  
23:57 News Summary  
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE  
639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 David Munn 06:30 The Music  
06:45 News 06:50 News Summary  
07:00 World News 07:05 World News  
07:10 News Summary 07:15 World News  
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VOICE OF AMERICA  
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740,  
11925 and 13210 KHz

05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA  
Morning 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline  
06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10  
Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00  
News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA  
Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline  
09:30 VOA Morning 09:50 News  
Summary 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline  
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23:30 VOA Morning 23:50 News  
Summary 24:00 News 24:10 Newsline

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS  
\* An exhibition of architectural  
drawings of the Al Amir by Francois  
Lalonde and Jean-Pierre Lange at the  
Architecture Gallery — Royal Centre,  
Jabal Amman (until Jan. 10).

\* A cultural exhibition by the Islamic  
charitable society of Hebron (Jezreel,  
bancos, traditional embroidery) at the  
Architecture Gallery — Royal Centre,  
Jabal Amman (until Dec. 24).

### FEATURE FILM

"My Way Home" at 7:30 p.m. at the  
British Council.

### PLAY

\* Trilogy of Japanese plays by the  
L.C.S. at 6:00 p.m. at the Royal  
Cultural Centre.

### SOVIET FILMS

\* Soviet film festival at the Soviet  
Cultural Centre (until Dec. 24).

### BALLET

\* Spanish Ballet of Mercedes Moreno  
Financeno at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday and  
Wednesday at the Royal Cultural  
Centre.

### VIDEO

\* The ABC News at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Centre — "L'Image et  
l'Ordre" at 4:00 p.m. at the French  
Cultural Centre.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610257  
American Centre Tel. 644371  
American Cultural Library Tel. 641520  
British Council Tel. 636147-8  
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009  
Goethe Institute Tel. 641593  
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644205  
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049  
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777  
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 645195  
Hassan Youth City Tel. 647186  
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793  
Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 644231  
Ammann Municipal Library Tel. 637111  
University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555

### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and  
costumes over 100 years old. Also  
mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th  
to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre,  
Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5  
p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an  
excellent collection of the antiquities of



## Kennedy: Iran deal offended Americans as much as Egyptians

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptians offended by U.S. arms sales to Iran should realise that "the American people feel exactly the same way," U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy said Monday.

After meeting for an hour with President Hosni Mubarak, the Massachusetts Democrat called for "deeds, not just words" from the United States to repair damage to Washington's relations with the Arab World.

"There is no question that the arms sale to Iran provoked tension in terms of our relationship with Jordan and Egypt," Sen. Kennedy told reporters. But "one thing that our friends here in Egypt ought to understand is that the American people feel exactly the same way," he said.

Sen. Kennedy, who becomes chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee next month, met Mr. Mubarak at the end of a Middle East tour that earlier took him to Israel and Jordan.

Sen. Kennedy said on arrival Sunday that His Majesty King Hussein had told him the secret dealing with Iran "was a great disservice to peace and undermines his own position in working towards peace."

After meeting Mr. Mubarak, Sen. Kennedy said, "The question is how we can best reclaim this friendship. It can only be done with deeds, not just words or statements or speeches."

"This is something that our friends here should understand — that action by the (Reagan) administration was not supported by the American people or by the Republicans and Democrats in the House of Representatives and the Senate," the senator said.

Sen. Kennedy, whose sister Jean Kennedy Smith sat in on the meeting, called Mr. Mubarak a "friend of democracy" who is "one of the truly outstanding statesmen, not only of the Middle East but of our time."

The senator said his discussions with the Egyptian leader included "a very detailed description of the challenges that exist here internally in Egypt."

He expressed hope that "over time the U.S. will stand by the Egyptian people as they cope with the problems they are facing here."

The Kennedy party left Cairo shortly after the meeting with Mr. Mubarak. A U.S. embassy spokesman said they were headed directly home except for a refueling stop in Europe.

## Interior Ministry okays relocation of bus stations

By Ahmad Kreishan  
Special to the Jordan Times

Basman Street in downtown Amman, opposite Al Hussein Mosque.

— The bus station for Salt, Mahes, Fubcis, Baqa and neighbouring areas will be moved to the bus and taxi terminal in Abdali.

— Stations for buses operating in the southern areas of Amman will be moved to bus and taxi terminal of the southern region in Wahdat.

— Bus stations for Jabal Al Nuzha, Jabal Al Hussein and Al Hussein Camp will be moved to the new Rahdhan Bridge.

— The station for buses going to the University of Jordan, Abu Nusair, the Ministry of Higher Education and Jubeiha will be moved to the bus and taxi terminal in Abdali.

— The bus station for Jabal Amman and King Hussein Medical City will be moved to

## Supply Ministry to buy olive oil from East and West Banks

AMMAN (JT) — The Ministry of Supply has decided to purchase 3,000 tonnes of olive oil from farmers on both the East and West Banks of Jordan. The ministry's decision was taken in response to a directive issued by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and is designed to support olive farmers in Jordan.

The prime minister has decided that a special committee comprising representatives of the Ministry of Supply, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation be set up to regulate the purchase and delivery of the olive oil.

The purchase price for an 18 kilogramme tin of pure olive oil was fixed by the Ministry at JD 25.

The newly-formed committee met on Monday under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Supply's under secretary and decided to form sub-committees to purchase and receive the oil.

Last month, Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoed gave permission for olive and olive oil produced in the occupied West Bank to enter the East Bank in order to meet a shortage of these products in local markets.

A statement issued by the ministry's office said that

## Hindawi visits education department in Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Education Thonqan Al Hindawi on Monday stressed the need for an integrated educational plan taking into account all elements of the teaching-learning process in order to cope with latest developments in the field of education.

During a meeting with heads of departments and sections at Irbid's education department, Mr. Hindawi said that the main objective of education is to prepare students and that since teachers are the main and most important element in the educational process, they should always be informed on the latest developments in the field of educational methods in order to

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Abdoun Supermarket, Sweet Supermarket, Istiklal Library.  
Limited tickets at the door

## Palestinian stabbed in Jenin

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A Palestinian official in charge of the education department in an occupied West Bank town was stabbed in front of his home and taken to hospital suffering medium wounds on Sunday, the Israeli army command said.

Two masked assailants attacked Zahara Hasuna in all parts of his body in the town of Jenin, Israel Television reported. He was taken to hospital in the nearby town of Afula.

The television report said Mr. Hasuna was a prominent Palestinian.

An army spokesman requesting anonymity said he did not know whether any suspects had been arrested in the stabbing incident.

A 66-year old Jew was stabbed and moderately wounded on

## Khayyat calls for more care, attention to Al Aqsa Mosque

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat on Monday called for directing further care to Al Aqsa Mosque in the occupied Arab city of Jerusalem and for investments in Waqf property in the occupied Arab territories.

During a meeting with directors of Awqaf departments in Jerusalem, Dr. Khayyat stressed the need for developing methods of preaching, guidance and called for spreading religious awareness.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Awqaf Under-Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi and his assistant for preaching and guidance affairs.

Also Monday, directors of Awqaf, preaching, guidance, pilgrimage and Waqf property departments in the occupied West Bank sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein expressing their loyalty.

In their cable, the directors said that they look forward to King Hussein's efforts and endeavours to save the first of the two kiblas (Jerusalem) and the third of the two holy harams (mosques) and for supporting the steadfastness of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories.

The Awqaf directors also pledged to remain loyal to King Hussein.

## Haj Hassan leaves for Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan on Monday left for Cairo at the head of a Jordanian delegation on a few-day official visit to Egypt.

In a pre-departure statement, Mr. Haj Hassan said that he and Egyptian Minister of Labour and Training Assam Abdul Hay would discuss issues pertaining to the movement of labourers between Jordan and Egypt in accordance with a labour and information exchange agreement concluded in 1985.

Mr. Haj Hassan added that his talks would also focus on other labour issues including vocational training, labour force planning, industrial security and social security.

Mr. Haj Hassan added that he and his Egyptian counterpart would also discuss scopes of cooperation in the field of work, residence permits and social security coverage.

Jordan's delegation to the meetings comprises Social Security Corporation Director General Mahdi Al Farhan, Vocational Training Corporation Director General Munther Al Masri, Director of the Recruitment Department at the Labour Ministry Mansour Al Otoum and Colonel Ahmad Al Khasawneh, director of the foreigners and border department at the Public Security Directorate.

## Israeli police urge trial for leftists who met PLO aides

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli police have recommended that the government put on trial four Israeli leftists who met representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Romania last month, the state radio reported Monday.

Under a new Israeli law that forbids unauthorised meetings with "terrorist organisations," the leftist leaders could, if convicted, face prison terms of up to three years.

A 29-member Israeli delegation held a two-hour meeting with 15 Palestinians in the Romanian town of Costinesti on Nov. 6. The encounter ended prematurely, apparently because of threats against the Palestinians.

The meeting, organised by the Romanian Writers' Union, was condemned in advance as "illegal and harmful" by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Lawyer Amnon Zichroni, who went to Romania as the delegation's legal adviser, told reporters the four leftists would use the trial to make a political statement.

"They went to protest against a law they saw as awful, a law running contrary to the basic legal principles of the state of Israel. Inasmuch as 'they want to demonstrate, it's only natural for them to exploit the trial for that purpose,' he said.

Last month, Yael Lotan, one of the four who may now go on trial, told reporters: "We did not go to break the law. We went to convey a message of peace."

Mr. Shamir called the group "traitors."

Jordan Times  
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## Explosion kills driver of French city mayor

PROVINS, France (AP) — A powerful explosion Monday morning destroyed the car of Provins Mayor Alain Peyrefitte and killed his driver, Mr. Peyrefitte's wife said.

The blast occurred outside Mr. Peyrefitte's house in Provins, east of Paris. Mr. Peyrefitte's wife, Monique, said that Mr. Peyrefitte normally used the car over the weekends but by chance had not used it over the previous few days.

Mr. Peyrefitte's political office identified the victim as Serge Langer, 51, a mechanic and the city hall and one of several men who served as drivers for Mr. Peyrefitte.

Mr. Langer had come to pick up the Citroen BX car which the city put at Mr. Peyrefitte's disposal on weekends, and a bomb apparently exploded when he started the car, the office said.

Monique Peyrefitte said her husband, who formerly was the French justice minister, had used his own car over the weekend instead of the Citroen and driven to Paris Sunday night. He returned immediately to Provins, 83 kilometres away, when informed of the explosion, his office said.

Mr. Peyrefitte, interviewed on French television, said he had received no death threats recently, but believed he was a target because of his outspoken conservative views, expressed regularly in front-page editorials in the newspaper Le Figaro.

"I'm the symbol of the simple idea that there's no liberty without order in a society," Mr. Peyrefitte said.

Mrs. Peyrefitte said the explosion was so powerful that "half the car was blown over the wall into the garden" and all the windows were broken in neighbouring houses.

Mr. Peyrefitte, a senior figure in the neo-Gaullist Rally for the Republic Party of Premier Jacques Chirac, has represented the Provins region in parliament since 1958 and held a number of ministries since 1962, including information, scientific research, culture, administrative reform and planning, and justice.

## Rifai conveys King Hussein's message to Iraqi president

Prime Minister in Baghdad to co-chair Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Monday received Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who conveyed a message from His Majesty King Hussein on the latest developments in the Arab region and on relations between Jordan and Iraq.

Mr. Rifai arrived in Baghdad earlier Monday on a two-day official visit to Iraq to head the Jordanian side to the meetings of the Higher Joint Iraqi-Jordanian Committee. In an arrival statement at Baghdad Airport, Mr. Rifai described relations with Iraq as "ideal and unique," saying that Jordan fully supports Iraq in its conflict with Iran. He added that Iraq is fighting this war on behalf of the Arab World and he expressed the hope that Iraq would achieve victory in the near future.

During his visit, Mr. Rifai will hold talks with Iraqi officials on economic and political matters, within the framework of joint coordination.

Mr. Rifai was received upon arrival by Mr. Taha Yassin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister and member of the Revolutionary Command Council, members of the Jordanian delegation to the joint higher committee meetings, Jordan's ambassador to Iraq and

the Iraqi ambassador in Amman. After his arrival, Mr. Rifai met with Mr. Ramadan and reviewed scopes of cooperation and coordination between both countries.

During the two-day meeting, the committee is due to review Iraqi-Jordanian cooperation in economic and technical fields and will make a comprehensive assessment of joint projects.

Mr. Rifai is accompanied by Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh and the director of his office.

Also in Baghdad is a Jordanian delegation led by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher who have been holding talks with Iraqi officials to pave the way for the committee meeting.

The higher committee has comprehensive supervision of all forms of cooperation between the two countries and is entrusted with laying down plans for developing this cooperation. It holds its annual meetings alternately in Amman and

## Seminar on administration in cities underway

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan on Monday hailed the steadfastness of inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories saying that they are facing a battle for survival on their own land.

Addressing participants attending a seminar on the administration of cities, organised by the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) general secretariat in cooperation with the Arab Institute for Cities Development (AICD), the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS) and the United Nations Technical Aid Fund (UNTAUF), Mr. Hamdan said that ever increasing demands, and rapidly growing cities have contributed towards increasing burdens on municipalities and that they should move forward to meet these challenges. He added that the success of any municipality depends on the efficiency of its mayor and its staff.

The minister called for adopting an advanced administrative approach to work with employees taking a responsible attitude to their work and serving the public. The minister also called for amending laws to cope with modern developments.

Also addressing participants was Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh who said that the world of today is constantly changing and developing with great advancements in information and communications, extending also to a revolution in systems of administration. Mr. Rawabdeh called for upgrading the organisation of modern management to cope with new developments in the field of administrative sciences.

Also speaking were the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Arab Institute for Cities Development Abdullah Al Na'im, and Director General of the Arab Cities Organisation Taleb Al Taher who stressed the need for upgrading and developing Arab cities and modernising their municipal and local councils.

Mr. Taher said that, in the past, the success of a municipality was governed by the facilities and services it provided but that today, the criteria have changed, as a municipality's success is governed by its abilities to upgrade and develop services and to run them at minimum costs.

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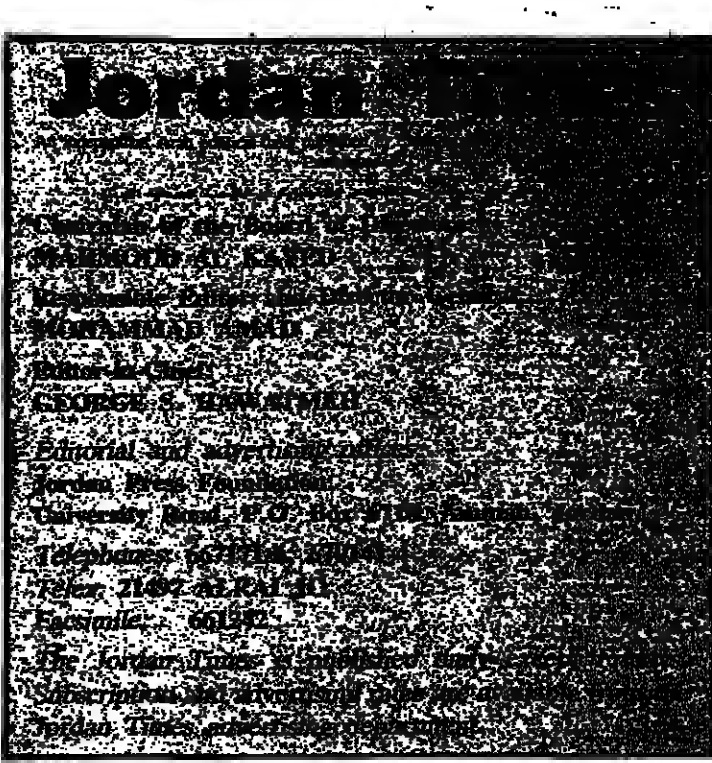


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## Action cannot be delayed

WITH the changeover in positions between Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir in October the world was held in suspense as to which direction the new Israeli government under Shamir would be heading with regard to the peace process. The question that haunted all concerned was whether the new Israeli prime minister would embark on a new and dynamic policy of continued colonisation in the occupied territories and thus frustrate whatever chances are left for bringing peace to the Middle East. But the suspense was soon over and the intentions of the new Israeli government have become clearer now. Not only did Shamir and Co. unleash a new policy of oppression and violence in the whole occupied territories, they have also re-initiated the old policy of further colonisation of the occupied territories and the expropriation of Arab land.

The Jordanian Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, which monitors the scene on the West Bank and probes into Israeli actions and policies in the Arab territories on daily basis, has recently made its findings public to the whole world to see and judge. In a report published on Sunday, the ministry confirmed that during last month alone the Israeli government had confiscated a total of 3,306 dunums of land privately owned by Palestinian Arabs in Hebron, Nablus and Bethlehem. The ministry's report also revealed that Israel had set up a new settlement in the Hossan village near Bethlehem. This is over and above the announcement made by the Israeli government to the effect that it planned to construct 12,000 housing units in existing Israeli settlements during the next two years, and that 27 new settlements would be set up during the remaining two years of Shamir's term in office.

As the famous saying goes, actions speak louder than words; so do the Israeli actions speak much louder and clearer than any declarations that the Israeli government under Shamir would abide by the policy of Peres which had called for restraint and slowdown in the on-going policy of colonisation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Where do we, Arabs, go from here is a pressing issue which the Arab leaders should address immediately and without delay. His Majesty King Hussein last Saturday called for an urgent Arab summit to review and discuss a whole range of national issues confronting the Arab World. It would be such an opportune occasion to examine in depth the chances of peace in the Middle East and what options the Arab World has before it to combat the deeds and actual intentions of the Israelis with regard to the question of peace in our region and the future of the occupied territories and our people there. It would be therefore a calamity of national proportions if the call of His Majesty is allowed once again to drift away without Arab action taken on it. The inhabitants of the occupied territories have waited for almost 20 years for Arab action to liberate them and bring back honour and dignity to this part of the Arab World. It is every Arab's national duty not to leave them waiting much longer.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Conspiracy against Arab order

KING Hussein spoke frankly about the major conspiracy directed against the Arab order and the bitter fact that other countries are belittling the importance of the Arab Nation. He also pointed to the reasons behind this and also to the various developments which continue to weaken the Arab countries. Referring to Gulf war the King said that the Arabs are confronting enemies that aim at destroying the Arab order and Arab existence. On the western front he said the Palestinian people are confronting a fresh wave of Israeli arbitrary measures designed to obliterate Arab existence and Arab identity, and in Lebanon, the Arabs are continuing to fight one another, further weakening this nation and rendering it incapable of defending itself in the face of external conspiracies. The King said that though the Arabs realise these realities and facts, they are impasse towards them and are doing nothing to end the tragedy. The Arabs, the King said in his address to the graduates of the Royal Command and Staff Academy on Saturday, have failed so far to mobilise their forces and their resources to confront their common enemies. The monarch also pointed to the stand of those who claim to be launching war on terrorism and said they are overlookers and many of them are gloating over this pitiable Arab situation and over continued Arab bleeding. It is regrettable to see Western capitals, including Washington, doing nothing to end terrorism being directed against the innocent civilians under Israeli occupation.

### Al Dustour: King urges Arab unity

KING Hussein referred to United States arms shipments to Iran in the past month and said that this should open our eyes to a bitter fact and a painful situation. He said that Washington justified its shipments by saying that Iran was of strategic importance for the United States and, therefore, it should open a dialogue with her and offer her a gift of arms as a show of goodwill. King Hussein in his address to the graduates of the Royal Command and Staff Academy said that it was most regrettable to see the Arab World divided and weak and insignificant in the eyes of the Western world. He said that Iran has begun to receive arms shipments from different countries which consider the Arab Nation of little significance due to its weakness and due to the divisions and disputes among its leaders. This bitter fact requires from us to reexamine our position carefully and try to learn from past lessons and look into means of mobilising our resources and our potentials in order to redress the situation. If we fail in this, we are bound to see more Israeli terrorist acts directed against our people without any one raising a finger or a voice to defend our human rights. King Hussein made bitter questions to the Arab World and gave the answers to them.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Arab differences to be blamed

KING Hussein's speech to the graduates of the Royal Command and Staff Academy on Saturday pointed to differences among Arab countries which he said are to blame for the deteriorating situation through which the Arab Nation is living at present. We are at the end of 1986 bidding farewell to a year that has witnessed tragedies and sufferings in the Arab World and asking the Arab leaders and masses when these differences among them will end. We also repeat King Hussein's question: Why was Iran favoured by the United States and why Israel continues to carry out terrorist campaigns against our people, and why the "camps war" in Lebanon continues. Above all, we ask why the Arabs unwilling and indifferent to taking joint action to safeguard their order and Arab interests. King Hussein gave the answer by suggesting that the Arabs should find a way for ending their divisions and by building up their intrinsic force with which to fend off all acts of aggression. The past year witnessed an escalation of aggression on the Arabs from the east and from the west and the Arabs can if they want to, put an end to such aggression and can if they want, end all differences among them.

# Factors behind negative images of Arabs and Islam in the West

By Edward W. Said

The writer is an Arab scholar and author of several books on the Middle East. He lives and teaches oriental studies in the U.S.

FOR about twenty years, ever since the 1967 War, it has been common to represent the Arab World and Islam in the West in extremely negative terms. The terrorist and the mad mullah are the best-known representations of Islam. It is also true to say that these representations, whether they occur in films, television, journalism, scholarly and intellectual writings, have a history that begins well before 1967. I have tried to trace this history in my book *Orientalism*, as have a number of other scholars. Nevertheless representations of the Arabs and Islam have become worse — that is, more disparaging and insulting — as the military credibility of the Arabs has degenerated, as Arab politics has grown more incoherent and unstable, as Arab economic power has been deflated to a fraction of its strength.

The question that ought to be asked is not why the European and American West represents Islam and the Arabs badly, but why these representations are worse, more defensive and angry than those of other cultures and religions. We must remember, I think, that the Western image of Africa, of India, even of China and Japan, is not positive: in all these cases the predominant feeling is that non-Western cultures are essentially inferior, and that coloured peoples are to be feared, distrusted and kept at a distance. Even so, representations of Islam and the Arabs in the West are worse. The reason is that unlike other cultures, Islam has remained a very geographical and spiritual competitor of the Christian West, and above all, Islam and the Arabs have never been completely dominated, and they have never completely capitulated to Western hegemony. Islam was never an "exotic" or charming culture for Westerners to adopt; it was never a fashion or a mode. There is built into it a resistance and a kind of stubborn universality that has stood against all Western efforts, even up to the present, to tame it, subdue it, to render it powerless, to silence it. Islam and the Arabs have always — even in their worst moments — demanded to be treated as equals with the West, not as inferior or subordinate. The result is that even now the West regards the Islamic world as trouble, and as an unresolved problem.

A small indication of this can be seen in the current efforts to bring about peace in the Middle East, which for 20 years has been a supposedly central feature of American foreign policy. For the past ten years the Arabs, the Palestinians, the Organisation of Islamic Conference have been on record accepting the principles of peaceful settlement with Israel on the basis of an exchange of land for peace. During this period Israel has bombed four Arab capitals, has killed literally thousands of Arabs, occupied and colonised more land, publicly renounced U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, and on dozens of occasions has totally refused to recognise Palestinian rights or to give up the occupied territories. In spite of this, it is the Arabs and the Muslim world in general who are portrayed as the rejectionists, the terrorists, the obstacles to peace.

This extraordinary paradox cannot simply be ascribed to Arab military weakness, although that has played a part. The reasons for so negative a picture, which is flatly contradicted by the facts, are much older, and have their roots in the political conflict of cultures between Islam and the West. Both cultures claim universality; both are systems of thought, and not just dogmatic beliefs; both command the allegiance of millions of followers. More important, however, is that both cultures have involved each other in a political quarrel which, in my opinion, does both cultures a good deal of harm.

It is therefore a cause for some rejoicing when these cultures in conflict produce representations of each other that are favourable and that go beyond the ideological boundaries with which each surrounds the other. Two recent examples in America are worth describing.

The first concerns a remarkable opera, *The Life and Times of Malcolm X*, recently produced in New York. It is of course based on

the life of Malcolm X, a great black leader who was assassinated in 1965, but whose conversion to Islam was centrally important to his experiences as a black man in a white society. The composer who wrote the music for the opera is Christopher Davis, a young black musician who is also a well-known jazz pianist. Although the opera was performed at the New York City Opera — the second and slightly less important of New York's two major opera companies — it attracted a great deal of attention, first because it was the first time that an opera by and about blacks had been performed in New York, and second, because the opera was uncompromising in its political message.

This opera is organised into three acts, each corresponding to phases in Malcolm's life: Act One portrays the murder of his father by white racists, and his early life as a street black in New York and Boston. He is arrested for drug dealing and sent to prison. In Act Two he is shown in prison, where he becomes acquainted with black Muslims whose leader in the fifties was Elijah Muhammad. Malcolm becomes a preacher and political activist in this branch of Islam, where he remains subservient to Elijah, and to his vision of a complete separation between black and white people. In Act Three, Malcolm has become a leading political figure in the United States, although he has become increasingly unhappy with Elijah, and the latter with him. Elijah senses that Malcolm's popularity has made him a rival, no longer a follower. Troubled by the rigidities of Elijah's ideas about an unending war between blacks and whites, Malcolm decides to perform the Haj.

In the most interesting scene in the opera, Malcolm is shown in the mosque at Makkah during prayers; as the Fatihah is read, he begins to understand the universality of the Islamic vision, in which humanity can be united despite differences in colour and race between individuals. This is the climax of the opera, as it frees Malcolm from his ties to Elijah and liberates him from racial hatred and resentment. Shortly afterward, Malcolm is assassinated, and the opera ends with a sense of tragic loss.

The Makkah scene in *Act Three of Malcolm X* by Christopher Davis is the only time in my experience when I have seen Islam represented in an American medium as a benign and attractive force, capable of improving rather than disabling human beings. More interestingly, Davis shows Malcolm's conversion to Islam as a liberating alternative to the norms of white racist society in the United States. So in fact, as I said, the opera is quite strong politically; especially since much of its audience is white, and likely, therefore, to be made uncomfortable by an indictment of it by a black Muslim whose inspiration is Makkah.

Unfortunately, however, *Malcolm X* was given only four performances. The opera company said that it had already lost \$200,000 and could not allow itself to lose any more money. But so positive were the reactions to the work that there is some hope that the opera will return to the stage in the near future.

The second example concerns a series of nine films on Africa broadcast on public television in the United States. They were made by the BBC, and directed and written by the distinguished Kenyan political scientist (who is professor at the University of Michigan) Ali Mazrui. One point to be noted is that these nine films about Africa are being shown as part of an effort to represent various cultures on American

television. Thus far films have been shown about all the European peoples, about the Jews, the Chinese, the Latin Americans, and every other major national group — except of course, the Arabs and Islam. Mazrui's series portrays Africa as the product of three forces, two of them beneficent (the native traditions of Africa, and Islam), the third evil (European imperialism). After the series began the New York Times for three weeks consecutively devoted itself to a tremendous attack on the films, in which Mazrui's ideas were labelled false, malicious and unreliable. It was as if this view of the West and of Islam was intolerable to the establishment which, on the other hand, was unable to stop the films from being shown.

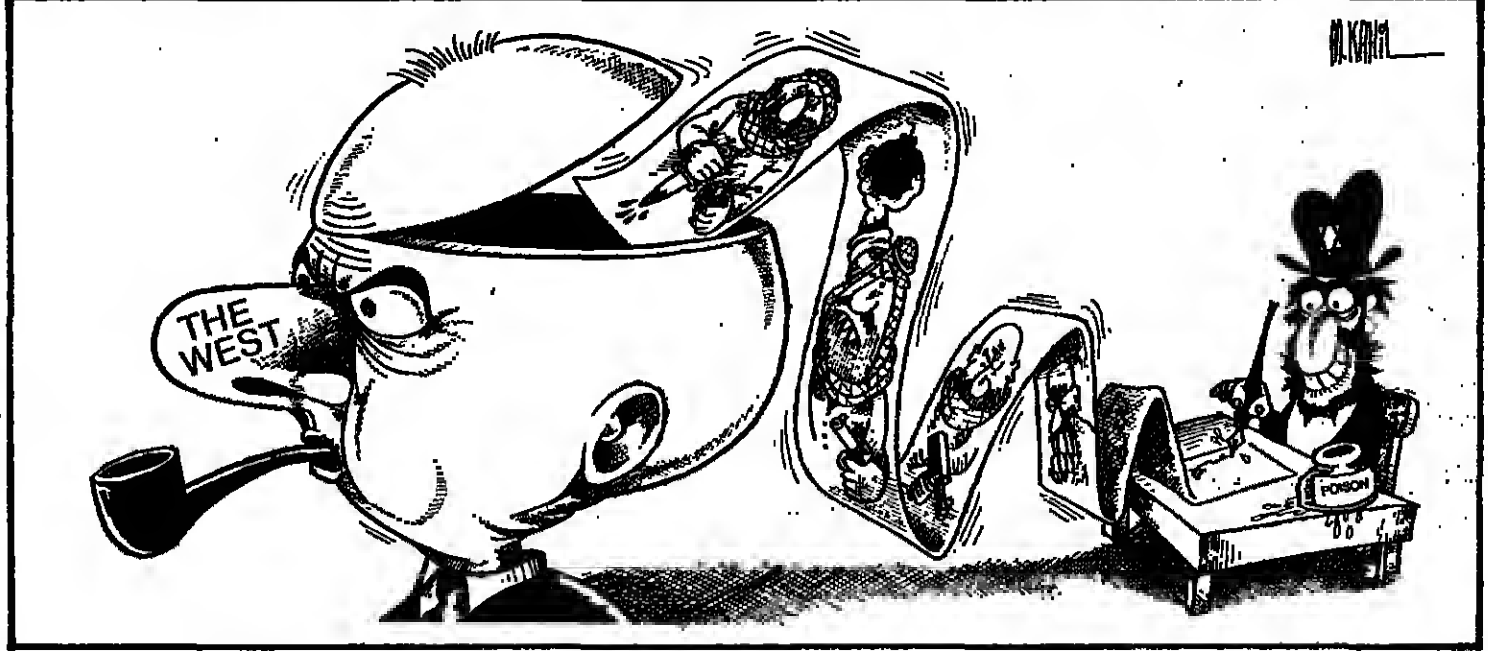
Thus in the case of *Malcolm X* and Ali Mazrui, cultural representations of Islam, usually considered both an alien and frightening force in the West, were given new and unusual positive form. The reasons of course are that black Americans have an interest both in positive accounts of black American history and of Africa, and thus were able to press through these two remarkable artistic and intellectual achievements.

What of the Arabs? I shall conclude with a sad and, I am sorry to say, a disgraceful story. In 1983 a ten-film series on the Arabs was presented very successfully on British television. The films were funded by a small group of Arab businessmen who were convinced — rightly so — that it was time that a major series made by and about Arabs appeared in the West as a corrective to all the misrepresentations of our culture and traditions that circulate without challenge. A British production company was engaged, but the writing and the

planning of the series was done entirely by Arabs. The ten films each presented a point of view on some important aspects of Arab life, history and society. They were shown all over the world and were bought by American television, that is, by the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) which is the only major national non-commercial and educational channel in the United States.

Since the Public Broadcasting System is non-commercial the series had to be underwritten by American corporations who do this sort of thing all the time. Because I made one of the films and was very enthusiastic about the series, I contacted several Arab friends in this country to try to get them to arrange the financing, which was only \$450,000. I thought this was a major opportunity since it would for the first time bring an audience of about 20 million people to an appreciation of our people as we see ourselves. We have for years been complaining about the media, and so now we had a chance to put our view before the West. I am deeply disappointed to report that for almost two years now not a single penny has been raised. The various Arab countries and corporations who have connections with large American corporations who do billions of dollars worth of business in the Arab World have not done anything significant to pressure these American corporations to sponsor the series. And those corporations themselves have of course been happy to block the series, although they each depend on the Arab markets for a large part of their enormous profits.

We have lost an opportunity in this crucial field of cultural politics. We are unable to fight military wars, and we are unable to make peace. We are also unwilling to help ourselves as the rest of the world continues to regard us as terrorists and idiotic savages. In the United States we remain the only national group that has been unable to unite and fight the wars against us. Thus we are our worst enemies, but I am still mystified why that should be so. Perhaps someone can explain it to me, since I have obviously been away from the Arab World for too long. But when I see how many Arabs send their children to be educated in the West, how many Arabs now live in the West, own apartments in New York, Paris and London, when I see that we are more sophisticated about Cardin, Gucci and Dior than about our own interests as a people, I begin to wonder whether ignorance and lack of resources are reasonable or acceptable excuses for our incompetence and lamentable performance. There are more convincing reasons.



## ICHIH finalises declaration

(Continued from page 1)

some of whom are government leaders, would also strive to sensitize their governments to the principles embodied in the declaration. The committee members include scholars and key government officials from different countries and from diversified political ideologies and religious faiths.

Prince Aga Khan told the Jordan Times that he was impressed by the consensus which prevailed among the members on all the issues discussed throughout the three years of the committee's work.

The commission, which functions independently from the U.N. was formed and held its first plenary meeting in New York in November 1983 following a proposal by Prince Hassan to the U.N. to promote a new humanitarian order and the endorsement by the international body of a related resolution earlier in 1981.

The U.N. resolution recognised the importance of further improving a comprehensive international framework which takes fully into account the existing instruments relating to humanitarian questions as well as the need for addressing those aspects which were not adequately covered.

In fact, throughout its seven plenary sessions, the ICIH tried to cover humanitarian issues that it perceived as not adequately addressed, such as famine, desertification, deforestation, street children, drugs and the anguish of families of "disappeared people" — who have either been abducted or killed.

It has also sponsored the production of a documentary series on these issues. Prior to the press conference, the already produced three parts of the documentary were shown to the committee members as well as the journalists.

The three documentaries,

which dealt with the problems of desertification, deforestation and street children, were filmed in Asia, Latin America and Africa. The films seek to illustrate through the experiences of people and their testimonies the tragic dimension of the three problems on human lives and the suffering they bring about. They also pointed out the dangers of the continuing desertification and deforestation on the future of the world.

Although documentaries on the same subjects have been produced in the past, what distinguishes the ones sponsored by the ICIH is that they go far beyond the demonstration of the problem to explore the challenge these problems constitute to human progress and civilisation. The message in the three films is that technological progress and advancement did not and cannot solve or possibly eliminate human suffering, and on the contrary could cause or aggravate it, if the impacts on human relations and people's reactions are not adequately addressed.

The gist of the three documentaries fit very well into the main argument of the ICIH in its stress for the need of universally accepted humanitarian codes of conducts that should govern and regulate all political, social and economic processes in times of war and peace in order to lessen the suffering which the historical development involves.

At Monday's press conference, Prince Hassan explained that the ICIH draft declaration on humanitarian principles reflected "a comprehensive approach" to humanitarian problems. He said the declaration would include 16 sectoral reports, covering issues ranging from consequences of war to the plight of street children.

"There are defined limits when it comes to the discussion of humanitarian issues and all issues are inter-related," said the Crown Prince. "Thus, we cannot possibly deal with the problems of nuclear weapons and street children," he said. The Prince pointed out that these issues had been discussed as separate issues while the ICIH

tried to tackle them in their totality.

He also said that the ICIH hopes that its declaration of humanitarian principles would be a basis for the development of a new form of modern philosophy which addresses international community regardless of race, colour and religion.

Although the main function of the ICIH — the formulation of the declaration — has been achieved the commissioners shall follow up the progress of the declaration through an entity which will be set up in Geneva. But Prince Aga Khan stressed that that committee itself was not a permanent body. "We do not want to form just another bureaucratic body, but a monitoring entity will be set up in Geneva," he said.

He later told the Jordan Times that despite the fact that the ICIH was formed to discuss a new humanitarian order, it made a point to share its findings with the world through its publications and films so as to contribute to raising public awareness on the issues discussed and to build up support and consensus on humanitarian issues.

The ICIH met again on Monday and was expected to set up a drafting committee designated with the formulation of the final draft of the declaration.

The 16 members, including the two co-chairmen, who attended the seventh plenary session. Ms. Susanna Agnelli (Italy), His Eminence Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns (Brazil), His Excellency Mohammed Bedjaoui (Algeria), Mr. Henrik Beer (Sweden), Mr. Luis Eche, Dr. Manfred Lachs (Poland), Mr. M. Hidayatullah (India), Mr. Lazer Mojsov (Yugoslavia), Mrs. Mohammad Mzali (Tunisia), Mrs. Sadako Ogata (Japan), Mr. David Owen (the United Kingdom), Dr. Willibald Pahr (Austria), Mr. Leopold Senghor (Senegal), Mr. Soedjatmoko (Indonesia), Mrs. Simone Veil (France) and Mr. E.G. Whitlam (Australia).

Some of the delegates left Monday evening and others were scheduled to leave in the next two days.

## Ghandour outlines approach to boost RJ

(Continued from page 1)

have saved any money even if we did not change the colours because the cost for changing the material is the cost we will have to pay eventually."

During the almost 90-minute press conference, local and foreign correspondents were not allowed to ask Mr. Ghandour direct questions. Questions were to be written and submitted to RJ Vice-President for Public Relations Muntouk Toukan, who summarised the themes of a number of questions into one question and later read it out to Mr. Ghandour.

Mr. Ghandour expressed hope that the national carrier would be able to reopen its offices in the West Bank so that it could increase tourism to the area. He gave no further details but said airline would encourage tour packages to "Jordan and the Holy Land — both banks of Jordan" — to help overcome a drop in passengers caused by international and regional recession and political turmoil in the area.

He said that tentative net profit for the year 1986 were JD 1.9 million, up from JD 1.8 million in 1985, on a gross income of \$336 million, down from almost \$400 million last year.

Replying to a question, Mr. Ghandour said he expected the carrier's profits to rise slightly in 1987 to reach "a conservative estimate" of JD 1.2 million on a gross income of \$393 million.

The RJ chairman, who helped found the airline in 1963, revealed that the carrier, currently 100 per cent owned by the government, planned to sell 10 per cent of its shares to its employees and another 30 per cent of its stock to Jordan's private and public sectors. A preliminary study to transform the company's status was carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The USAID study, Mr. Ghandour said, predicts that the airline could offer a dividend of 6.5 per cent every year per share.

Mr. Ghandour said the government had approved of the preliminary scheme for the RJ's privatisation. He said he expected that the 10 per cent of

shares reserved for RJ staff and the 30 per cent for the public and private sectors to be floated sometime in 1987.

As far as international floating of RJ shares is concerned, Mr. Ghandour said, this issue will take another legal study.

The airline has a fleet of 17 aircraft including Boeing 747s, TriStars and Boeing 727s and covers 40 destinations and has sales offices in 100 world capitals.

Mr. Ghandour said the airline carried a total of 1,150,000 passengers in 1986 and expected the figure to go up to 1.4 million in 1987. He said that passenger traffic declined in 1986 by 18 per cent due to fears of terrorism. "It was a meaningful drop" for the airline, he said. "But I hope that with the new strategies we will remove fears and therefore promote our packages to Jordan and the Holy Land."

The airline's cargo service ferried 43,000 tonnes in 1986, a figure which is expected to increase up to 59,000 tonnes in 1987, Mr. Ghandour said. "Seat factor productivity" for 1986, was 52.5 per cent, he said and expressed hope it would rise up to 79 per cent in 1987. "This is the area where we hope to achieve an increase of 25 per cent and that is why we are changing our marketing policy and have a new corporate image and identity."

On the carrier's overall flight punctuality, Mr. Ghandour said the airline was 79 per cent regular and said the figure would increase up to 85 per cent in 1987.

He blamed weather elements for adversely affecting the punctuality of the airline.

He also said that the airline's technical regularity standing was at 79.2 per cent in 1986 and it was expected to go up to 98 per cent in 1987.

The airline, which opened new routes to Senegal and Moscow in 1986, has plans to start flying to Algeria, Manila, Montreal and has hopes in operating a route to Rio de Janeiro through Lagos and Abidjan in November 1987, Mr. Ghandour announced.

In 1989, the RJ planes will be flying to Seoul and Tokyo and to Sydney in 1990, he said.

In 1986, it opened sales offices in three Australian cities — Sydney, Melbourne and Perth — and hopes to open new offices during 1987 in Oslo, Stockholm and Helsinki.

Asked which were the best and the worst routes for the airlines during 1986 in terms of "seat occupancy," Mr. Ghandour said: "There are no good or bad routes. Each route network contributes to the success of another route. Some routes have either a high or a low seat factor."

Elaborating airlines new strategies, Mr. Ghandour said there would be greater emphasis on customer service. "The passenger is the target of our efforts," said Mr. Ghandour explaining that "as of today, we have a completely new interior in our aircraft and new seats to give more comfort. The upper deck of RJ Jumbo 747s will be a 'quiet zone' with sleeping seats and beds. The company will also introduce a well-chosen menu that rotates every month instead of the previous seasonal rotation. Very special attention will go to non-smoking areas on board our aircraft."

In the marketing area, Mr. Ghandour explained that the airline was facing a change in traffic patterns and is basing its marketing strategy on a two-pronged approach. First, the airline will be capitalising on Jordan as a great touristic place with a deep-rooted history. "We will capitalise on the stability and security enjoyed by the Kingdom," in contrast with the region's turmoil, Mr. Ghandour said. He added that the airline planned to introduce Jordan as a gateway to the Holy Land and a business centre for the Middle East and the Gulf.

He revealed plans for marketing the East and West Bank as a complete tour package and added that the tourism authorities of Jordan and Egypt were joining hands to shoulder the new conditions, he said.

The second marketing approach will be achieved by tapping new markets to replace the "shrinking or stagnant" markets in the region due to the socio-economic and political conditions, he said.

Mr. Ghandour also criticised unnamed countries in the region for protectionist measures adopted by their governments to secure themselves "a bigger slice of a shrinking market through measures such as imposing visa restrictions or demanding a ticket of their national airlines to be produced." He said "protectionism for a time for some of their countries."

"Protectionism is not a solution in the region," Mr. Ghandour said. "This is a fact and it is unprecedented in our world."

He called for Arab "protocol of the Arab world" — "Marakeesh" by all Arab states regarding traffic rights among themselves.

The airline expects to add a new A 310 Airbus in early 1987 and another A 310 in 1988. It also expects to add a new A 310 in 1989 and a new A 310 in 1990, he said.

Financially, Mr. Ghandour said, the airline was "in a very good position" and was "not over-indebted" with a "strong financial base."

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# 2 years after leak, Bhopal victims still suffer, wait and die

By Matt Miller  
The Wall Street Journal

**BHOPAL.** — Outside a decrepit building near the court where a judge hears arguments on the Bhopal gas disaster, people mill as they wait to receive 1,500 rupees (\$11.4) each as part of a government relief effort.

They have been waiting more than a year. Their presence is one of the lingering effects of the world's worst industrial accident. During the night of Dec. 2-3, 1984, deadly methyl isocyanate gas escaped from a pesticide plant in this central Indian city.

According to government estimates, the toxic gas that night killed 1,600 Bhopal residents. Since then, the government says, 700 more people have died as a result of the accident. And the state government of Madhya Pradesh, of which Bhopal is the capital, is attempting to verify an additional 300 death claims.

Government lawyers say claims against Union Carbide Corp. of the U.S., whose subsidiary owns the pesticide plant, could easily exceed \$3 billion.

## A lingering death

Many Bhopal residents continue to suffer from shortness of breath, eye irritation and psychological depression. Each day, thousands flock to hospitals, clinics and relief and rehabilitation centers in search of some improvement in their lives. Others wait for a date that was promised 18 months ago.

Deaths attributed to the effects of the chemical leak continue to be registered. "It can be a lingering death," says Iswar Dass, the state official in charge of relief.

But many of those who could help the victims are spending their energies elsewhere. The government and Union Carbide debate responsibility. Officials carry out surveys. Activists accuse one another of being secret agents. Apathy, intrigue, corruption and cynicism flourish.

Victims often find themselves caught in the middle. "Two years have been wasted," says an embittered 28-year-old laborer named Rajesh, who lives next to the pesticide plant. Rajesh — he has only one name — has had difficulty breathing since the leak. He has been turned down three times for a vocational training program. "Most of us will die before we get compensation," he says.

**Distrust of foreigners**  
Most efforts to help the victims are overshadowed by controversy and distrust. In August, the central government from the accounts and prohibited all foreign funding of a rehabilitation center outside Bhopal run by Arizona State University after it was discovered that Union Carbide had provided \$2 million.

A month later, a 21-year-old British student who started a center in Bhopal for gas-affected children was arrested, as was his Indian companion. "Volunteers find it almost impossible to work," says Indar Mohan, a New Delhi lawyer who has defended Bhopal activists. "Anytime anything is done, people are arrested, threatened."

Accusations often center on the alleged involvement of Union Carbide. A New Delhi newspaper, for example, wrote in September that a hospital in Bhopal run by the Roman Catholic Church was a "Union Carbide front." Alok Pratap Singh, an activist, accuses the government, which is suing Union Carbide, of being "in collusion" with the company. He also alleges that other activist groups have ties with Union Carbide and "other vested-interest, foreign lobbies."



Body count at Bhopal: 1,600 people died on the first night, Dec. 2-3, 1984 (File photo)

"under control" and cites figures to prove it: 4,000 people a day receive medical treatment. 1,500 are in job training, more than 10,000 families have received "self-assistance" loans to start their own businesses.

Another official concedes, however, that the authorities have found the task overwhelming. "The government has never faced this sort of thing before," says the official, who asked not to be identified. "We can easily handle one or two months of flood relief, but not something affecting so many people over so many years."

Minna Lal Yadav would agree. Since June 1985, he has tried, without success, to collect the 1,500 rupee relief payment announced by the government. His wife was turned down for training when she applied at one of the sewing centers set up to rehabilitate women.

Many residents here believe the authorities should provide more jobs. And they continue to complain that, as Mr. Yadav puts it, "the government should remove the poison from our body." Mr. Yadav is one of many who say they still can't breathe properly because of the leaked methyl isocyanate, or MIC.

"It isn't like a case of TB," says Mr. Dass, referring to tuberculosis. "The effects of MIC on the human body aren't documented."

For months the city was mired in controversy over what should be done medically, with opposing camps advocating numerous treatment alternatives. Now there's a growing belief that thousands will never fully recover. Their lung tissues just aren't regenerating, Mr. Dass says. According to government estimates, between 30,000 and 40,000 were seriously affected by the poisonous gas.

In addition to shortness of breath, many Bhopal residents complain of vision difficulties. On a recent day, mostly women and children jam into the waiting room of Bhopal Eye Hospital. Many women dab their eyes or their children's with the ends of saris.

**'A gross change'**  
Ophthalmologist Lalit Mishra says he sees about 120 patients a day. He gives most a quick look, occasionally handing out eyewash. He marks down his findings on charts that are part of a five-year state-government study on the effects of the gas on eyesight.

Dr. Mishra denies reports that some gas victims have gone blind. "But I can tell you this," he says. "There's been a gross change before and after" the gas leak in the eyesight of Bhopal residents. Trauma and mental depression also continue, say other doctors in the city. According to Mr. Dass, 10 to 12 per cent of families surveyed had some kind of "mental problem."

The government says it has received more than 500,000 claims relating to the gas disaster, the equivalent of about 60 per cent of the city's population. Claim reports fill an entire room. Yet another survey was started this week.

## Doing our bit

Mr. Dass says that many critics are more interested in "putting forth their point of view" than in assisting the victims. He also says that "very, very little" assistance has come from outside India. The state government, he says, has spent the equivalent of \$40 million on relief and rehabilitation.

"Everything is a matter of money," says Tom Pande, chairman of the Madhya Pradesh chapter of the Indian Red Cross, the most active nongovernment agency in Bhopal. "Within the resources available for us, we are doing our bit."

Mr. Pande says he can't initiate new projects for lack of funds. But he concedes that there are "procedures you can't shortchange" that slow down implementation. According to Mr. Pande, the state Red Cross has spent "about half of the 60 million rupees" made available in April 1985 for Bhopal relief. He says he doesn't know what happened to the \$5 million donated to the Indian Red Cross by Union Carbide on orders of the U.S. judge who heard Bhopal-related lawsuits in the U.S.

Meanwhile, the court case here drags on. The government filed its suit in Bhopal against Union Carbide only in September. That

followed a May decision in a U.S. district court that legal claims be sent back to India. And part of that decision is being challenged by Union Carbide.

The Bhopal district court is only now hearing preliminary arguments in the case. Even those were interrupted last month after the government asked Judge G.S. Patel to block Union Carbide's world-wide assets sales and debt restructuring. (Union Carbide has agreed to abide by the rulings of Indian courts.) The government alleged the company was trying to structure its finances in a way that would benefit shareholders but could jeopardize its judgment.

Lawyers and officials working on the case believe that the discovery of documents relating to the lawsuit will take several months. Only after that can the trial itself begin.

# Rifai renews call for Arab support

(Continued from page 1)

"At present, Jordan is witnessing a reemergence of the private sector's activities and leading role in development and this sector has been instrumental in concluding new agreements with Arab countries and is now embarking on participating in running government business and in participating in projects which the government is trying to implement in conjunction with other Arab states."

"In addition, Jordan has built means of transport with Iraq and Egypt through which the eastern and western parts of the Arab World can meet and which can enhance any moves towards inter-Arab integration."

"But we feel it our duty to present the following views which aim at bolstering inter-Arab cooperation."

"First we believe it is time for applying regulations on giving Arab products priority upon entering any Arab market."

"Second, we call on the Arabs to give due attention to food security since this forms the main pillars for comprehensive national security."

"Third, we believe that Arab countries should aim at achieving industrial coordination among them because such coordination

lies at the root of Arab economy. "Fourth, in our view, joint Arab projects constitute the most important channels of Arab economic action and we ought to give it due attention and help market their products."

"Fifth, Jordan supports any Arab efforts designed to increase the volume of trade among Arab states and backs all endeavors for creating joint companies to develop trade and exports among them."

"Sixth, we deeply appreciate the Federation of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for its tireless efforts and urge it to double its efforts towards coordinating agricultural and industrial schemes."

"Seventh, Israel strives to swallow up the occupied Arab land and evict the indigenous population and it also tries to contain the economies in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, by the Jordanian government's measures, which include the open bridges policy and the steadfastness of the Arab population, are rendering this Israeli attempt futile. The Economic and Social Council issued in Amman last Sep resolution calling for of Arab markets for products of occupied Arab territories: it

are requested to help implement this resolution. "Eighth, whatever achievements we might make within the Arab World we cannot remain isolated from the rest of the world, and for this reason we ought to maintain our economic relations with world nations with the aim of transferring modern technology to our countries and bolstering trade."

Also addressing Monday's meeting was Mr. Hamdi Al Tabbat, chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Abdul Aziz Al-Sayid, chairman of the Kuwaiti Chamber of Trade and Commerce.

Both men underlined the fact that Jordan offered good investment possibilities and the Arabs had a national duty to support the Kingdom in the face of Israel's measures.

"We look forward to the day when the markets of Jordan, Syria and Iraq will become the nucleus of an all out integrated Arab economy," Mr. Saqr said.

Also speaking was Burhan Jajani, secretary-general of the Federation of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, who urged Arab countries to forge a common market that could enable them to compete with foreign countries.

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<p><b>Saturday December 27</b></p> <p><b>BINGO AT THE PHILADELPHIA HALL</b></p> <p>Special dinner. Live music. Bingo fund raising for charity.</p> <p>8 p.m. onwards J.D. 6</p>	<p><b>Wednesday December 31</b> <b>WELCOME 1987</b></p> <p>In Philadelphia Hall</p> <p>With the WONDERFUL MARVELOUS VIVACIOUS!</p> <p><b>NADIA JAMAL</b></p> <p>A sparkling floor show of 24 artists</p> <p>GALA CANDLE LIGHT DINNER</p> <p>10 p.m. J.D. 35,000</p> <p>Ambassador Nightclub</p> <p><b>SAHRIYEH...</b></p> <p>70% SOLD</p> <p>10 p.m. J.D. 25,000</p>	<p><b>Thursday January 1, 87</b> <b>ORIENTAL CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST</b></p> <p>Hommos, Foul, Falafel, Musabaha, Labaneh, PLUS A VARIETY OF GARNISHES</p> <p>J.D. 4</p> <p>Philadelphia Hall</p> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON BUFFET</b></p> <p>18 SALADS 8 HOT DISHES 15 SWEETS</p> <p>ENTERTAINMENT: ROYAL TRO</p> <p>12 Noon onwards J.D. 5,500</p> <p>Children under 12 J.D. 3,000</p>	<p><b>ON SALE</b></p> <p><b>TURKEY</b> with stuffing of your choice.</p> <p><b>BUCHÉ DE NOEL</b></p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS COOKIES</b></p> <p><b>TORTE</b></p>

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## Cleveland clinches division title

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Cleveland Browns nailed down a division title on Sunday and the New York Jets, riding a four-game losing streak, qualified for the NFL playoffs through the back door.

Sunday was a big day for the Jets, even though they didn't play. The struggling New York team got a boost when Kansas City defeated the Raiders, 20-17. That assured the Jets, who lost Saturday to Pittsburgh, of at least a wildcard berth in the AFC playoffs.

The Browns, led by quarterback Bernie Kosar, had a more direct role in determining their destiny. Cleveland clinched a 34-3 victory over Cincinnati.

Kosar made the most of the opportunity to throw bombs from the first play of the AFC Central showdown. He passed 66 yards to Reggie Langhorne to set up Kevin Mack's one-yard scoring run with only 83 seconds gone. Later in the period, Kosar teamed with Webster Slaughter on a 43-yard touchdown pass and the rout was on.

49ers 29, Patriots 24  
The 49ers, who lead the league

in forcing turnovers, beat the Patriots — who were no. 1 in holding onto the ball — because of turnovers. San Francisco scored its final 1-0 points after a fumble recovery and an interception.

Dallas dropped to 7-8 and saw the end of its streak of 20 consecutive winning seasons, the longest such active streak in professional sports. It's only the third time in 20 years Dallas failed to qualify for the playoffs.

Oilers 13, Vikings 10  
Tony Zendejas kicked three field goals and the Oilers took advantage of five turnovers and an injury to Vikings quarterback Tommy Kramer to eliminate Minnesota from the playoff picture.

Dolphin 37, Rams 31, OT  
Dan Marino's fifth touchdown game, a 20-yarder that scored a pass to Mark Duper, cut the lead to 3:04 into overtime.

Marino threw for 403 yards, completing 29 of 46 passes, for the Dolphins, 8-7.

Chiefs 20, Raiders 17  
Kansas City avenged an earlier loss to the Raiders in a game marred by several fights and a botched replay call. The Chiefs, who have the edge in tiebreakers over every team that is 9-6, will earn their first postseason berth since 1971 with a victory next week against the Steelers.

Seahawks 34, Chargers 24  
Dave Krieg threw four touchdown passes, including two in the fourth quarter, as the Seahawks won their fourth straight game. Krieg completed touchdown passes to Steve Largent and Ray Butler in the final period.

San Diego quarterback Dan Fouts moved into second place on the NFL's all-time passing yardage list. Fouts completed 21 of 38 passes for 237 yards and a touchdown, giving him a career yardage total of 40,287, passing Johnny Unitas, who had been second at 40,239.

Giants 27, Cardinals 7  
The Giants kept on track

toward the NFL's best overall record and the home field edge in their NFC playoff games as Joe Morris ran for 179 yards, scored three touchdowns and broke his own club-record for rushing in a single season. Morris, who fumbled three times, has rushed for 1,401 yards this season.

Saints 14, Falcons 9  
Dave Wilson scored on a 6-yard bootleg run with 1:55 left as New Orleans snapped a three-game losing streak. The Saints fell behind 9-7 on Ali Haji-Sheikh's 43-yard field goal with 5:39 to play, then drove 75 yards in 12 plays for the winning score.

Packers 21, Bucs 7  
Green Bay sacked Tampa Bay QB Steve Young seven times, while Randy Wright completed 14 of 25 passes for 190 yards to join Lynn Dickey as the only players in Green Bay history to pass for more than 3,000 yards in a season.

Colts 24, Bills 14  
Gary Hogeboom ran for one touchdown and passed for 318 yards and two other scores for the Colts, who have won two straight after 13 consecutive defeats.

## Chinese minorities compete in unusual sports

By Dai Yannian

THE Third Chinese National Minorities Traditional Games were held August 7-17 in Urumqi, capital of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. More than 700 athletes from the 55 minority nationalities competed in the eight-day games which featured seven events — flat horse racing, target archery, crossbow archery, wrestling, swimming, sheep vying and the team cracker contest as well as colourful traditional displays.

China is a multinational country, and all of her 55 ethnic groups have their own forms of sport. To encourage the sporting development of the Chinese ethnic minorities, the state government started a series of national minorities games events in the early years of Chinese liberation.

The first games were held in 1953 in Tianjin. Only a dozen ethnic minorities took part in five competitive events. At the 1982 Second National Minorities Games, only two competitive events of target archery and wrestling were held in Hohhot, capital of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. The Chinese State Physical Culture and Sports Commission gave the event a boost by making games into a quadrennial event. The next games are scheduled to be staged in Nanjing, capital of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, in 1990.

### New events

The Third Chinese National Minorities Traditional Games were a grand gathering for the Chinese minority nationality people from northwest, south China. Of the seven major events, the newly added sheep vying and team cracker contest aroused the greatest excitement.

Sheep vying, a folk sport popular in northwest China, especially with the Kazakhs, Khalkhas, Uygurs and Tajiks, is a cross between basketball and horseback.

Two teams of six horse riders each play in an oval field, 330 metres at its longest and 150 metres at its widest. The game is played in two 25-minute sessions with a 10-minute break in between. At each end of the field there is a basket, 2.7 metres above the ground and 1.5 metres in diameter. The players, all on horseback, start from the middle of the field, and compete to grab a sheep carcass, beheaded and eviscerated, and try to throw it into their own basket. Once the carcass is in the basket a point is scored, the winner is the team with the higher score. In this case the tournament winner was a Xinjiang team.

Team cracker contest, or Chinese-side rugby scored a hit at the games. It originated in



Sheep vying

Guangxi in south China about 500 years ago. The game is divided into two 20-minute halves during which 10 players take the field.

During the game, the cracker — an iron ring wrapped in red silk — is launched 10 metres into the air by a miniature cannon at the centre of the field (60 metres by 50 metres). At each end is a scoring area six metres wide. Once a player reaches the scoring area with the cracker his team scores a point. But since the cracker is only five centimetres in diameter it can be easily hidden in a palm. Winning a game, therefore, depends not only on strength and toughness but also on quick guess work.

Despite three referees and two score judges, the play can be rough, with bleeding noses and scratched faces. Anyone who kicks or bites though, is yellow-booked and sidelined for two minutes while anyone who causes intentional injuries is sent off.

Teams from five provinces and autonomous regions took part in the 10-round tournament; the Guangxi team carried off the championship.

### Folk sports events

During the Urumqi national minorities games, a total of 115 exhibition performances was given, 47 more than at the last games. A spokesman for the organising committee said these ethnic displays of colour and skill

added elements of wonder and entertainment to the thrill of the competitions.

Rope walking, or "Dawazi" in Uygur, is a traditional Uygur event handed down from ancient times. The rope extends from the ground at an angle of 45° to the top of a 30-metre-high mast. A barefoot teenage girl, carrying eight porcelain bowls on her head and holding a balancing pole, walks to the sound of Uygur music up and down the rope. Very often, she will do the "flying bird spreads her wings" movement, or the "Golden chick handstand." A legend tells that the art began when a youngster invented "Dawazi" to move up into the air to fight and kill a demon which lived there. As the flag on top of the mast flutters in the wind, nothing in the world seems more gripping, or more intricate than the girl's motions.

Lions climb golden mountain is another moving demonstration of skill. The golden mountain is composed of 17 layers of benches, the top layer being 8.5 metres above the bottom layer. Two or four players in "lions' hides" and with silvery bells around their necks, climb layer by layer as the audience looks on agape.

The performance by the team from Tianyang County, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, was the most exciting. According to Huang Zuoqiang, the team leader, in ancient time his

hometown was haunted by monsters during the harvest. People wove images of the lion, supposed to be the king of beasts, out of bamboo fragments. They wheeled the lions out amid the din of gongs and drums and scared the monsters away. The people of later generations perfected the lion display to celebrate their ancestor's triumph. Now in Tianyang County, Huang said, most of the villages have lion dancing teams and the Lions climb golden mountain was worked up especially for the sports meet.

The Miao nationality players imitated cocks fighting and bulls in combat with musical accompaniment, the Gaoshan nationality players performed "Bamboo-basket ball," with the men throwing balls into bamboo-baskets carried by attractively dressed girls in front of them — a sport which evolved from the wooing habits of the Gaoshan nationality living on both sides of the Taiwan Strait; the "Tug-of-war" performed by Tibetan players, was played not with the hands but with the neck. Of the exhibition events, 80 per cent were competitive.

### Modern and traditional sports

Modern sports games began to find favour with young people of minority nationalities with the founding of the People's Republic, and many minority nationality sportsmen and sportswomen became good and successful. They include Li Ning of Zhuang nationality, who won the rings championship at the 1984 World Gym Tournament and three gold medals at the 23rd Olympic Games; Jin Dongxian of the Manchu nationality, who broke the world record of 200-M smallbore rifle shooting in 1975; Luo Zhihuan of Korean nationality, who won the 1,000-M speed skating championship in a world contest; and Mn Xiangdong of the Hui nationality, who broke the world records for the 100-M breaststroke three times in succession.

The flourishing of modern sports among the minority nationality peoples does not mean the withering of traditional events. On the contrary, they are seen as part of the various traditional cultures including the national sports culture as a whole, and are developed accordingly.

Minority nationality traditional sports games, along with single sport contests or performances, have been held in various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. This has helped spread these sports and boost their development among the minority nationality people. At present, physical culture departments are working to discover more about ethnic traditional sports — Peking Review.



Team cracker contest

## New Zealand defeats USA

REMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Front-running New Zealand defeated USA Monday in a review of what to expect in the America's Cup challengers' semifinals.

The defeat of USA by 59 seconds and the upset victory of Italia over French Kiss sets up a California showdown between Dennis Conner's Stars and Stripes and USA in the semifinals beginning Dec. 28. New Zealand will meet French Kiss in the other best four-of-seven series.

Chris Dickson led New Zealand to its 24th straight victory — and 13rd win in 34 races — to finish the third round-robin series in first place with 198 points. Stars and Stripes was next with 154.

USA, skippered by Tom Blackaller finished third with 139 and 10 points behind in fourth

## USA

place was 144 points. French Kiss, which began on Oct. 13, challenged Dickson's easy win. It was a heavy-weight reaching 24 knots.

The first New Zealand beat was close with 15 seconds to spare. On the spinnaker, Blackaller sliced a four second lead, and it added only a beat.

On the crew pick, Dickson's lost it all back as he cut the difference between the two boats to 11 seconds on the second spinnaker run.

## First Arab Police Judo Championship opens in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — The first Arab Police Judo Championship was opened here Monday at Al Hussein Sports City with the participation of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Tunisia.

The championship was opened under the patronage of the Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

## Australia leads England

ADELAIDE, Australia (R) — Australian captain Allan Border, anxious to level the Ashes series, faces a difficult decision over the timing of his declaration when the third cricket test resumes Tuesday.

With just one day to go, Australia leads England by 141 runs with seven wickets in hand and Border must seek the delicate balance between ensuring his side does not lose and leaving his attack time to bowl the touring team out. England is one-up in the five test series.

Australia badly needed an early breakthrough when England resumed its first innings Monday at 349 for five in reply to Australia's 514 for five declared. But the only wicket to fall in the first session was that of newcomer James Whitaker, who lobbed a catch off paceman Bruce Reid to

Greg Matthews at mid-off. Matthews, celebrating his 27th birthday, seized the chance with glee and Whitaker was out for 11.

Nightwatchman John Emburey batted with a mixture of obduracy and belligerence and was out only one run short of his half century when he sparred at a delivery from Reid outside the off-stump and edged the ball to wicketkeeper Greg Dyer.

Jack Richards held up the Australian bowlers with a useful 29 and Phil Edmunds stayed around for 26 minutes and 13 runs.

Any hopes Australia had of pushing the runs along when it started its second innings disappeared when pacemen Philip DeFreitas and Graham Dilley dismissed David Boon and Dean Jones for nought and two respectively.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENDER AVAILABILITY TURBINE ISLAND TENDER NO. 52/86

Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces the Turbine Island Tender Document, No. 52/86, for the Aqaba Thermal Power Station Stage II is available for purchase as of 15 December 1986.

The tender consists of the design, supervision, erection, testing and commissioning of units each 130 MW with related auxiliaries. The Turbine Island Contract will be financed by the World Bank's loan which is assigned for the Aqaba Thermal Power Plant. Subsequently only contractors from countries which are members in the World Bank in Switzerland, and Taiwan, China are invited to participate in this tender.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, 1987 at the JEA offices in Amman accompanied by a security bond of 550,000 JD (five hundred thousand) Jordan Dinars. Bids will be opened in the presence of representatives who choose to attend at Amman local time on March 31st at the office of JEA. Tender Documents are available from the address below for a non-refundable fee of JD 250 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the Tender Documents.

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Khalaf Supermarket - Jabal Weibdeh  
Bazaar Khayyam - Jabal Weibdeh  
Hureih Printing House (Ashi) Jabal Amman

Price of tickets for the Palace of Culture show: JD 3.- and JD 2.-

## League leaders have tough week in Europe

LONDON (R) — Life at the top brought little reward for the leaders of Europe's soccer leagues at the weekend — while Benfica it brought outright humiliation.

Previously unbeaten in the Portuguese League this season, Benfica was routed 7-1 by Lisbon Rival Sporting for whom Manuel Fernandes scored four goals. "A hurricane that will go down in history," was how one newspaper described it.

Benfica's British trainer John Mortimore was stuck for an explanation beyond the fact that his team "just lost control." For Sporting, the result brought a

prompt end to recent criticism and its President Amado De Freitas said he hoped those who had told us "to preach in another parish" had now "heard our sermon."

Porto replaced Benfica at the top of the league with another one-sided result, an 8-3 drubbing of Farense in which captain Fernando Gomes scored five times.

Benfica's discomfort was an extreme example of what was generally an unhappy weekend for teams topping their respective leagues.

Barcelona conceded a home goal for the first time this season as it was held 1-1 by Atletico

Madrid. Napoli's lead in the Italian League was trimmed when it drew 0-0 at AC Milan while French League leader, Marseille, held 0-0 by Toulouse on Friday.

His side was lucky to beat Espanol, courtesy of a 15th-minute goal from veteran striker Carlos Santillana.

The crowd took out their handkerchiefs to complain about the champion's uninspired showing but Beenhakker implied afterwards that pretty play would have to take a back seat to good results from now on. "We had to beat Espanol any way we could because at this stage I don't mind if we play ugly football."

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# LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4325/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3780/85	Canadian dollars
	2.0140/50	West German marks
	2.2760/70	Dutch guilders
	1.6960/70	Swiss francs
	41.86/91	Belgian francs
	6.6000/50	French francs
	136.12/24	Italian lire
	163.25/35	Japanese yen
	6.9950/600	Swedish crowns
	7.5680/730	Norwegian crowns
	7.6125/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	394.30/394.80	U.S. dollars

# LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares showed a firmer bias in late trading but were off the mid-session highs on profit-taking after the lower opening on Wall Street, dealers said. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 6.2 at 1,636.0 after a high of 1,641.3 at 1425 GMT.

Equities have been buoyed on Monday by steadier sterling and hopes that OPEC can make some agreement to cut production and so raise crude prices to around \$18 a barrel.

Among leaders, ICI dipped 7p to 1,092 while Glaxo added 25p to 977, bid target Pilkington 4p to 629 and Coors Gold 7p to 665. Unilever shed 25p to 2,170 on profit-taking after the recent strong gain.

GEC showed little reaction to a belief that the U.K. government will purchase aircraft for its early warning system from the U.S. Boeing Co., rather than award the contract to Britain's GEC for its Nimrod system. GEC stood a penny down in late trading at 166.

Racal gained a penny to 177 and Plessey 1 1/2p to 173 1/2p as they are expected to benefit from relatively large orders if the government order goes to Boeing.

# Saint-Gobain share offer oversubscribed 14 times

PARIS (AP) — The sale of the nationalised Saint-Gobain glass and building materials conglomerate was a big success, with private citizens offering to buy 14 times as much stock as was available, the finance ministry said Sunday.

A ministry statement said more than 1.5 million people bought shares in Saint-Gobain under a plan giving preference to small shareholders over large buyers and institutions.

Saint-Gobain is the first of 65 nationalised corporations the government plans to sell over the next five years, and the ministry statement called the sale of its stock an "exemplary success."

The offer drew bids within France for 275 million shares of stock, it said, 14 times the 20.16 million shares offered at 310 francs (\$47.70) each. Another 5.04 million shares were offered outside France, and they were bought within 48 hours after the sale began Nov. 24.

The ministry said it was pleased individual investors bought 85 per cent of the shares offered, leaving 15 per cent for institutions.

State-owned financial institutions already owned 16 per cent of Saint-Gobain, and that stock was not offered for sale. So the new ownership of the company is 50 per cent individual investors, 10 per cent French institutions, and 15 per cent foreign investors.

Finance Minister Edouard Balladur had tried to attract individual investors by guaranteeing orders for 10 shares or less would be filled entirely, and investors who keep 10 shares for 18 months would receive one free share. A total of 14.97 million shares were purchased under this plan.

An additional 2.22 million shares of stock were sold to individuals who ordered more than 10, but the ministry said it filled only 10 per cent of the orders for 11 to 50 shares, and only two per cent of those for more than 50.

In the end, 1,547,000 individuals bought 17.19 million shares of stock. Another 2.8 million shares were bought by Saint-Gobain employees.

# World Community Outlook predicts persisting decline in metals use by industries

LONDON (R) — Industries worldwide are using less metal, and are unlikely to want much more even if economic activity recovers sharply, an expert report on industrial raw materials says.

Exporters of minerals such as aluminium, tin and copper face a future in which bulk supplies are just not needed for many of the new, high-technology consumer products in which metals are being replaced by other materials, says the 1987 World Community Outlook of the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

The unit, part of the Economist Group which also includes the Economist weekly newspaper, sees prospects for metals as bleak.

Mining countries already hit by low prices for their products as a result of the past 12 years' economic slowdown have had their problems compounded by "a long-term and pervasive decline" in the metal content of manufactured goods, the EIU reports.

One way or another, "consumption looks dismal," the report's editor, Mr. Gerald Roberts, told Reuters.

The current level of metal prices shows "a drastic fall" long-term, and looks set to be about 45 per cent lower in real terms this year than in 1962, the report says.

The exporting countries are seeing terms of trade — their income from metals against the manufactured goods they can buy — sharply changing to their disadvantage.

That ought to worry the governments of metal-importing industrialised countries as well as those of the less developed nations mining them, the report says, because prospects for world trade as a whole are suffering.

Countries relying on raw materials exports for foreign

exchange earnings are having to cut down imports of manufactured goods as their spending power dwindles.

Industrialised countries are thus deprived of outlets for their manufactured goods, which threatens their prosperity too, the report says.

Copper and aluminium are both examples of metals being ousted from strongholds, by other metals or new substitutes.

If Japan follows Europe in making car radiators out of aluminium instead of copper, and everyone follows Japan's use of fibre optics in telecommunications, the consequences for copper consumption would be drastic, the report says.

The report finds "no justification for optimism" in present circumstances. Only general market growth "at a high and unlikely rate" providing more traditional outlets for the metal could change the picture, it says.

Aluminium is being displaced from packaging by plastic, and to some extent more use of tinplate. The report expects Western use of the metal to pick up by "a meagre one per cent," as the outlook for car production is "not sanguine."

The report sees mechanical engineering, traditionally a heavy user of metals, contributing increasingly less to manufacturing output than electronic engineering.

And the electronic sector offers scope for increasingly "miniaturised" equipment, using fewer materials altogether, and less metal as substitutes take over.

Producers "can expect no comfort at all" from prospects in the major industry's use of steel, aluminium, copper, zinc or lead, the EIU forecasts.

# Iraq to raise oil exports from Yanbu

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraq will increase its Basra light crude oil exports from Yanbu on the Red Sea in Saudi Arabia to 250,000 barrels a day in January, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Sunday.

Iraq's exports from Yanbu are currently running at 100,000 barrels a day, down from around 370,000 barrels a day in November because of the tying-in of a looping project designed to expand Saudi Arabia's export capacity through its east-west pipeline from 1.85 million barrels a day to 3.05 million barrels.

MEES, a weekly oil newsletter published in Cyprus, said when expansion work on the Saudi pipeline, known as petroline, is completed in late January, Iraq's throughput entitlement will rise to 500,000 barrels a day.

MEES estimated Iraq's current oil production at 1.7 million barrels a day.

It also said that negotiations are expected to continue until March between Iraq's state organisation for oil projects and the companies competing for the construction of the 1.6-million-barrel-a-day Iraq Pipeline trans-Saudi Arabia (IPSA-2).

The 970-kilometre pipeline will take around two years to complete, it added.

# Oil and gold prices go up

LONDON (R) — Optimism in the petroleum market that OPEC ministers meeting in Geneva would shortly agree on new production cuts Monday sent free market crude oil prices above \$16 a barrel for the first time since February.

Gold prices also edged higher. Investors favour gold if the outlook is for more inflation, which a jump in oil prices would cause.

Traders said crude oil from the British North Sea Brent field, for loading in two months' time, traded Monday at \$16.10 a barrel.

Brent blend is a widely-traded grade and has acted as a pricing "barometer" for the industry since the start of the oil glut in the early 1980s.

It went below \$9 a barrel earlier this year during about of uncontrolled production by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Since August, when the group reintroduced production curbs and tightened the market, it has held in a range between \$13 and \$15.

Traders said the optimism which drove the price back above \$16 Monday was based on reports from the Geneva OPEC talks that Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, would be proposing further production cuts.

The reports said Saudi Arabia favoured cuts of around 7.25 per cent of current OPEC oil production.

OPEC's stated goal is an \$18 barrel.

Gold was fixed in London Monday at \$394.60 an ounce, up from \$390.50 last week.

# Two prominent Jordanian companies agree to merge

By Lamis K. Andoni  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two major public shareholding companies have decided to merge in order to overcome financial difficulties and to increase their (new) capital to around JD 11.5 million, well-informed sources have said.

The two companies, the Jordan Industrial Investments Corporation (JIIC) and the Jordan Management and Consultancy Corporation (JMCC), have decided on the merger after their financial positions were strained due to the shrinking of local and external markets for their commodities and services, and consequently the accumulation of unpaid debts to local banks and credit companies, the sources said.

The merger, which is yet to be approved by the Committee for Economic Security, represents only one case of many other Jordanian companies which have recently decided to merge to face the shrinking economic activities caused by a regional recession. But some economists, however, believe that the recession was not the only cause of the foundering of

some companies and argue that "many Jordanian companies have overexpanded far beyond their capabilities and revenues during the boom years of the 70s."

Both the JIIC and the JMCC own a large percentage in at least nine industrial firms, service companies and department stores including AJ Waha, which is the biggest department store in Jordan.

According to the sources, new partners, including the Jordan Marketing Corporation, the banks and the major financial creditors will be allowed to invest in order to raise the capital to JD 11.5 million and cover the unpaid debts and interest which, reportedly, exceed the capital of each of the companies.

The sources said that the corporations' creditors have agreed to capitalise the overdue

loans and interests which are estimated at JD 4.5 million. The merger agreement also includes a syndicated loan of JD 1 million.

The other JD 6 million needed to secure the capital of the new company will include the assets of the two corporations, estimated at around JD 3.5 million and other foreign and Arab investments worth JD 2 million. The Jordan Marketing Corporation is expected to invest JD 500,000.

The major creditors of the JIIC and the JMCC include Petra Bank, the Cairo-Amman Bank, Jordan Securities Corporation and the Finance and Credit Corporation.

The two companies, according to the sources, have not yet decided on a new chairman for the new emerging corporation, which also has not been named yet. But the JIIC chairman of the board of directors is Mr. Zaid Shasha'a while the current chairman of the board of directors at the JMCC is Mr. Said Hamami.

Dr. Rajai Muasher, minister of industry and trade, recently indicated that the ministry is examining the cases of about 40 public shareholding companies suffering from various financial, managerial and marketing setbacks.

# Egypt likely to remain major wheat importer for two decades, experts say

CAIRO (R) — A booming birth rate and low-cost loaves should keep Egypt high on the table of wheat importing countries well into the 21st century, experts said Monday.

With wheat consumption already among the world's highest on a per capita population basis, Egypt will be in the market next year for up to 6.5 million tonnes of wheat and wheat-flour.

The experts said Egypt was also likely to be importing much more wheat in future years to match a population growth of 2.7 per cent a year.

Bread is a cheap, staple diet for Egypt's 51 million citizens — so

cheap, say the experts, that many Egyptians will even feed it to chickens and cows.

Authorities last year phased out a subsidised one piastre (0.74 cents) loaf in favour of an improved loaf at twice the price.

Reduction of overall subsidies is a major plank in talks with the International Monetary Fund for help to boost Egypt's ailing economy.

Mr. Michael Shultz, regional director of the U.S. Wheat Association, told Reuters that Egypt would probably remain heavily dependent on imported wheat for "at least two decades."

Efforts to increase the amount

of land under wheat made little headway last year, partly because farmers prefer growing clover, fruit and vegetables — all in big demand because of high meat prices and growing urban populations.

Clover, for example, brings in about 490 pounds (\$363) an acre, compared with 170 pounds for wheat.

"Egypt is physically unable to produce more wheat despite ambitious land reclamation projects. If they want to grow more, then they will have to grow less rice and cotton," one expert said.

# Study shows rising income inequality

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than one-fifth of the 6.7 million new full-time jobs created by the U.S. economy between 1979 and 1984 were at the federal minimum wage of \$3.35 per hour or less, a study commissioned by Congress says.

About 22 per cent, or 1.5 million new jobs, were at or below minimum wage and considered low-income. Nearly 78 per cent, or 5.2 million, of the new positions were in what was labelled a "middle income stratum" of \$7,000 to \$28,000 per year.

The number of high-income, full-time wage earners, making \$28,000 and more per year, fell by 66,000 during the same period, the study said.

The authors — Barry Bluestone and Bennett Harrison, political economists at the University of Massachusetts-Boston and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, respectively — argue

that a proliferation of low-wage and part-time jobs points to growing income inequality.

They cite Census Bureau figures showing that the share of low-income earners among full-time workers rose from 4.1 per cent to 5.6 per cent between 1979 and 1984, while those with "high-stratum" incomes above \$28,000 declined from 27.1 per cent to 24.2 per cent.

The nearly 5.3 million net increase in full-time middle-income wage earners — from 40.4 million to 47.7 million — raised their share of total full-time employment from 68.8 per cent to 69.8 per cent.

Meanwhile, a group of business leaders, citing previous work by Bluestone and Harrison, released their own 84-page aimed at "dispelling this notion of a downward spiral" and that poor-paying service jobs are replacing high-wage

manufacturing employment.

"Too much of the current debate over structural change is focused on the fear of change and not enough on the employment opportunities being created," said the 40-year-old Private Committee for Economic Development.

The committee's study said 600,000 of the manufacturing job losses between 1973 and 1985 were in low-wage industries, such as textiles and shoes, while slightly more than half of the jobs added during the same period were in higher-paying professional and managerial occupations.

Of the nearly 16 million new jobs expected between 1984 and 1995, the study said 5.1 million of them will be in managerial, professional and technical occupations increasingly occupied by workers with college or post-secondary training.

# YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll-Righter-Institute

## FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 16, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A very good day to make a well-rounded course of action. You will be able to get-out and do the many things that require attention, such as Christmas shopping.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan how to handle routines and communications more wisely. Study data you need for greater efficiency.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Handle travel matters. The evening is best for inviting in a few choice guests and enjoying life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Find new ways to add to your present assets. Don't neglect to make out statements and reports.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Every opportunity is yours to gain data impossible to attain. Try to please your mate tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Conversations with your friends will reveal how much assistance you are able to get from them to add prestige.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make careful plans for handling worldly affairs. Have a long talk with a bigwig who can be of assistance to you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study your credit and community affairs well and improve them in some way. Make new friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Know where you are headed in business and organize your affairs more intelligently. Plan a trip.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Come to an agreement with associates. Get public OK early. Agree with your mate's ideas in the evening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Improve the duties you have agreed to perform. Get into new projects with your associates.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You understand how to be happier with regular recreations today. Keep promises to co-workers, also.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can see how to have success at home. Take your family out to dinner. Be romantic tonight, too.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those delightful young persons who will have every ability to learn about many things due to the inquisitive mind here. Upon reaching adulthood your progeny will put all this knowledge into practical expression with great swiftness.

# THE Daily Crossword by N.E. Campbell

ACROSS

- 2 Seminal
- 5 Fragrant tree
- 10 Fasting period
- 14 Silt
- 15 Overstated
- 16 Anatomical passage
- 17 Keep — on (chick)
- 18 Phases
- 20 Coat symbol
- 22 Colours
- 23 Subtense
- 25 — Coburg
- 26 Pantomime game
- 29 Statement
- 33 Travelers' recommendation
- 34 Rambled
- 36 Baffling cheer
- 37 Footrest
- 38 Perfume ingredients
- 39 Single line
- 40 Mail de —
- 41 Throwing weapon
- 42 Therefore, in absent reasoning
- 43 The mind
- 45 Supports
- 47 Israeli dance
- 48 Old editor
- 50 Ship accommodation
- 54 Stargazed
- 55 Instruments
- 56 Distressing
- 58 Sudden attack
- 60 Goodness of diadem
- 61 Old card game
- 62 Division word
- 63 Fishing boat
- 64 Scratches out
- 65 Polish river

DOWN

- 1 A Cayson
- 2 QED word
- 3 Reservoir facility
- 4 Annoyed repeatedly
- 6 Made isacoul
- 8 Silbicon
- 9 Priest
- 7 Have a spade
- 13 Felice
- 9 Goes back over
- 18 Sarcophagi or sarcophagus
- 11 Needle case
- 12 Cozy place
- 13 Low card
- 19 Jaded
- 21 Air, airline
- 24 — Heine
- 26 Tinseltier
- 27 Expects
- 28 Rail birds
- 30 NY area
- 31 Highway to Alaska
- 32 Film units
- 35 Infectious agent
- 36 Phone worker
- 38 Musical composition
- 41 Dugwood
- 42 King of the Huns
- 44 Shabby
- 46 Bank clientele
- 48 Chamelion
- 50 Coaster
- 51 Soliloquist
- 52 Eastern blight
- 53 Wares
- 55 Location
- 57 CSA general
- 59 Kind of beetle

# Peanuts



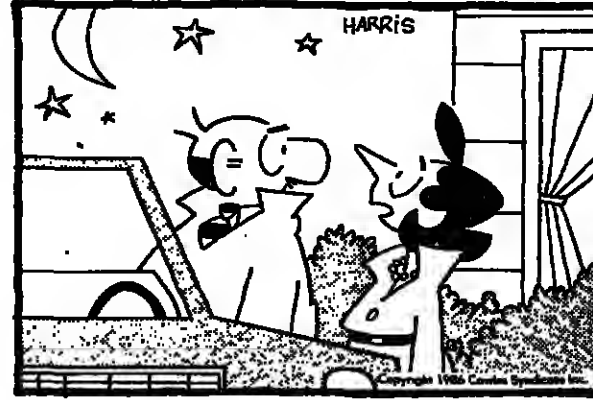
# Mutt 'n' Jeff



# Andy Capp



# THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



# JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DEPTY

NUGLE

CUBEKT

TANECC

HE WENT TO THE SHIRK FOR A CHECKUP FOR THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SYNOD ABHOR FORKED TACKLE

Answer: Why the employee at the car factory was fired—HE TOOK A "BRAKE"



## Filipino military reports first ceasefire violation by rebels

MANILA (Agencies) — About 100 Communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels attacked a hilltop patrol base in the central Philippines in the first clash to mar the six-day-old ceasefire, military officials reported.

A spokesman for the Panay Island Military Command said the rebels began shooting at a detachment of 19 soldiers at about 7 a.m. (2300 GMT) and withdrew about five hours later. There were no casualties.

The National Ceasefire Committee, which is charged with monitoring violations of the 60-day truce, was unaware of the incident and issued a report saying that so far there had been no armed clashes between rebels and government troops.

Col. Beigino Casio of Panay military headquarters told Reuters the attack took place in the district of Madalang in Aklan province on the north western tip of Panay Island, about 400 kilometres south of Manila.

Communist subversive

terrorists encircled the patrol base but our men took defensive action and fired back. Finally the harassing subversive terrorists withdrew because they realised they could not capture the base," he said.

Western Visayas Military Commander Domingo Rio, whose territory includes Panay Island, told the Philippine News Agency the incident was "a clear violation of the ceasefire agreement between the government and the rebels."

Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos, who is touring the region, said it appeared to be the first major fighting to be reported since the ceasefire took effect at noon on Dec. 10.

Meanwhile the government of President Corazon Aquino

decided Monday not to allow former President Ferdinand Marcos to return to the Philippines for Christmas, officials said.

Following a special cabinet meeting, presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno said the government had received no formal request from Marcos to return.

But if such a request were received, the government would reject it on the grounds that such a visit "would not be in the national interest," Mr. Benigno said.

Aquilino Pimentel, special presidential adviser on national affairs, said the cabinet decision was unanimous.

Mrs. Aquino's government cancelled Marcos' passport after he fled to Hawaii in February.

On Sunday, officials confirmed that the Laogang Airport in Iloos Norte had been closed since Friday. The airport was closed last September when rumours spread that Marcos might try to return.

Also on Sunday, some 1,00

Marcos loyalists rallied in Manila to hear speakers condemn Mrs. Aquino's 60-day ceasefire: with the Communists, which began last Wednesday.

Marcos' surviving sister, Fortuna Marcos-Barba, told the Associated Press she had informed the ex-president of his sister's death by telephone.

"I suppose he would want to come back, but even if he has all the desire in the world, if he would not be allowed to come back, what can he do?" she said.

Mrs. Marcos-Barba said the family had made no request to the Aquino government to allow Marcos to return for the funeral but might do so after she informs the ex-president's 96-year-old mother, Josefina, of her daughter's death.

The ex-president's mother has been confined to a hospital in poor health for some time. Mrs. Marcos-Barba said the mother was aware Marcos was no longer in the country but did not know the full story of his overthrow.

## Karachi violence death toll reaches 98

KARACHI (R) — Rioters tossed victims into burning buildings as rival Muslim communities here battled Monday in this Arabian Sea port in bloody disorders that have taken nearly 100 lives in the past two days.

Forty people were killed Monday and nearly 200 injured as soldiers with orders to shoot-to-kill violators patrolled the streets of Pakistan's largest city to quell violence between rival Pushtun and Mohajir communities.

Another three people died of injuries received Sunday, bringing the death toll from the city's worst explosion of ethnic violence to at least 98.

The casualties, brought to four hospitals, had been shot, stabbed or stoned and included five charred bodies of people thrown into blazing buildings, the doctors said.

A curfew enforced by at least 5,000 soldiers was extended to three new districts and now covered well over half the population of more than seven million.

The violence erupted Sunday when Pushtuns from north-west Pakistan and Afghanistan went on an orgy of shooting, stabbing and burning in the suburb of Orangi town, according to numerous eyewitness accounts.

The attacks apparently were in reaction to a government drive to seize drugs and weapons from the predominantly Pushtun suburb of Sohrab Goth and transfer at least 25,000 Afghan refugees out of the city.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, who arrived in Karachi Monday on a previously arranged visit, pledged at a meeting with local politicians to stamp out trafficking.

He said the Sohrab Goth operation was not aimed at any particular community, but against those trading in illegal arms and life-threatening drugs, the Pakistani news agency APP said.

But Pakistan's most prominent opposition leader, Benazir Bhutto denounced the operation, which began on Friday, as badly conceived.

"None of the notorious drugs and arms smugglers or their partners were arrested," she said in a statement issued in Islamabad. "A few addicts were rounded up and the flames of communal and ethnic violence were fanned."

The local administration said it confiscated heroin, opium and marijuana worth hundreds of millions of dollars at Chicago street prices in three days of house-to-house searches.

## Soviets sign S. Pacific anti-nuclear treaty

SUVA, Fiji (R) — The Soviet Union, whose efforts to expand its influence in the South Pacific are causing Western concern, Monday became the first of the nuclear powers to sign the region's new nuclear-free-zone treaty.

The protocols of the treaty, which went into effect last week, were signed by Soviet Ambassador to Fiji Evgeny Samoteikin at the headquarters of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation (SPEC), SPEC officials said.

Moscow signed two of the three protocols barring the use and testing of nuclear devices in the nuclear-free-zone whose establishment was spearheaded by Australia.

The third protocol banning the manufacturing, storing and testing of nuclear devices in the signatories' Pacific territories, applies only to Britain, France and the United States of the nuclear powers.

The Soviet Union and China do not have territories in the zone, which covers virtually the whole South Pacific from the Equator to the Antarctic and from Australia's east coast to South America.

France, vigorously condemned by Australia, New Zealand and other treaty members for its nuclear testing in the Pacific, has said it will not sign the protocols.

Britain and the United States have not given the pact outright support but have said they are

studying it seriously. The treaty, agreed in principle by the 13-member South Pacific Forum in August, 1985, bans the possession, testing, use or dumping of nuclear weapons or waste in the area.

It leaves individual states to set their own policy on visits by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered warships.

Moscow's move to sign the protocols follows last week's talks with the South Pacific Island state of Vanuatu which ended near agreement on fishing and port access rights, according to Vamam officials.

The two sides will be meeting again in the new year and if final agreement is reached, Moscow would have shore-base facilities in the region for the first time.

Australian and American officials have expressed concern that fishing deals with island states would give Moscow a strategic foothold in the region and intensify big-power rivalry.

Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden told reporters at the weekend that a fishing deal with Vanuatu would lead to Soviet infiltration through a lack of security surveillance.

Moscow signed a one-year fishing agreement with another island state, Kiribati, last year and although the contract has not been renewed because of disagreement on fees, the door has been left open for renegotiation.

## Mexican mural moved from damaged hotel

MEXICO CITY (R) — Workers have moved a 30-tonne mural by Mexican artist Diego Rivera to a safer location one block from its original home, which was damaged in Mexico's devastating earthquake last year. The workers used a massive crane and a flatbed truck to move the mural. "Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in the Alameda Central." Painted between 1947 and 1948 on a wall in the Hotel Del Prado, the mural shows dozens of key figures in Mexican history. One of them, 19th century politician Ignacio Ramirez, was painted holding a scroll saying "God does not exist."

The phrase, spoken by Ramirez in a 1836 speech, brought accusations of blasphemy against Rivera, a Marxist, and the hotel received several calls from religious extremists threatening to dynamite or burn down the hotel unless the mural was removed.

Hotel officials decided to cover the phrase until Rivera agreed in 1956 to change the wording. The mural escaped unscathed during the Sept. 19, 1985 earthquake in which at least 20,000 people died, although the Del Prado Hotel itself was damaged.

Church of England may ordain women, survey says

LONDON (R) — A survey has revealed that the vast majority of the clergy and laity in the Church of England believe that the ordination of women is inevitable, whatever the opinions in the controversy. The poll, published in the Independent newspaper, was carried out by Horack and Associates among almost 1,000 lay church members and several hundred clergy — from bishops to the humblest country vicar. Of those polled in both groups, only four per cent — fewer than one person in 20 — think that women will never be ordained. However, a much larger proportion remains staunchly opposed to allowing women to spread the word of God from the pulpit. One clergyman in three and one lay person in five is opposed to the ordination of women.

Lost Spanish city discovered in Ecuador

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — The lost city of Valladolid, founded by Spanish conquistadores four centuries ago, has been discovered in the Amazon jungle. The city was found a month ago during mineral explorations in the Zamora-Chunchipe province near Ecuador's border with Peru, 350 kilometres south east of Quito, said Fernando Navarro, acting energy and mines minister. "Valladolid retains vestiges of colonial roads and great walls, now surrounded by thick jungle vegetation, that are witnesses to a past that fused roots and culture," Mr. Navarro told reporters Thursday. Zamora de Valladolid, according to historians, was founded more than 400 years ago by Juan Salinas de Loyola during the Spanish conquest of Ecuador. Salinas, a captain-general who served under Francisco Pizarro, is among the most famous conquistadors of that era.

1,500 dirty diapers stolen from doorsteps

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — More than 1,500 soiled cotton diapers were stolen last week, and police say the thefts were not accidental because diapers were taken from at least nine doorsteps. "I can't imagine wanting a stackful of dirty diapers," diaper service customer Veronica Poston has said. "I personally wouldn't even want to wash the things." She lost 30 diapers Wednesday night, the same night as the other thefts. "We have no suspects," said police spokesman George Packney. The diapers were taken from customers of Di-Dee Service of Florida Inc. of Tampa, which makes nearly 1,000 deliveries a day. Police said the "nine customers were called in advance by a man who asked questions about diapers as though he was taking a survey. On Wednesday they got calls from a man who said he was a new Di-Dee driver. He said he would make his rounds early Thursday and asked that the dirty diapers be put outside that night. In some cases, he even asked for directions. Di-Dee owner Paul Fogel, 21 years in the business, said it was the first time thieves have shown an interest in soiled diapers. He put his loss at \$3,000.

## Amritsar under curfew after riots

NEW DELHI (R) — Police clamped a dawn-to-dusk curfew on the Sikh holy city of Amritsar after two nights of rioting following the murder of a Hindu politician by Sikh extremists.

Police loudspeakers vans toured the streets ordering people home as a general strike backed by all parties gripped the city of 600,000 inhabitants in protest at Saturday's shooting of Kewal Krishnan Bhatia and two other people.

The curfew was imposed and schools, colleges and the university were closed after Bhatia's mainly Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) threatened violence against anyone who ignored the strike call.

In Chandigarh, the state capital, Punjab's beleaguered Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala faced two threatened no-confidence votes in the state assembly for his failure to resolve the Sikh extremist problem during his 15-month rule.

Despite apparently crumbling support among Punjab Sikhs and Hindus alike, Barnala was expected to survive the votes because of support from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party and the failure of the squabbling opposition to unite against him.

In Amritsar police set up checkpoints across the city to impose the curfew. State Police Chief Julio Ribeiro

Sunday announced the capture of two top extremist suspects and eight militants and the killing of three extremists by police after an attempted robbery.

Ribeiro's biggest catch was Dhanna Singh, one of the five most wanted Sikh extremists, whom he said masterminded many of their hit-and-run killings.

Dhanna Singh, wanted on charges of treason, murder and conspiracy, is a member of the clandestine Sikh separatist "Panthic Committee" which last April shocked the country by proclaiming the formation of Khalistan from the Golden Temple.

He is the first member of the group to be caught.

## Tamil rebel rivalry claims 30 lives

COLOMBO (R) — More than 30 Tamil separatist guerrillas were killed during the weekend in battles between two rival Sri Lankan rebel groups, newspapers and residents said Monday.

Residents said battles raged until late Sunday night in the island's north and east between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the largest rebel group, and its strongest rival, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF).

They are among four main guerrilla organisations fighting government troops in northern and eastern provinces to set up an independent state for Sri Lanka's Tamil minority.

The independent Sun newspaper said more than 30 rebels were killed in grenade and gun battles around Jaffna, Trincomalee and five other districts.

Residents said the LTTE claimed it had captured more than 30 EPRLF camps in the Jaffna district and that more than 300 members of the rival group had surrendered.

They told Reuters by telephone that the LTTE Monday captured all the EPRLF sentry points in Jaffna city and manned them with their own armed "Tigers."

They said the LTTE appeared to have overpowered its rival in Jaffna but the EPRLF was putting up heavy resistance in the east.

Observers said the LTTE was clearly trying to establish its supremacy in the Tamil-dominated north and east on the eve of a fresh round of talks between India and Sri Lanka on ways to resolve the bloody ethnic strife.

Indian Ministers of State Natwar Singh and P. Chidambaram are scheduled to start talks in Colombo on Wednesday with Sri Lankan President J. Jayewardene and his ministers.

India is mediating between the Colombo government and Tamil groups.

## Hanoi leader criticises party and government

BANGKOK (R) — Party chief Truong Chinh Monday blasted the Vietnamese Communist Party and government and apologised for the country's economic woes at the opening session of the party's national congress in Hanoi.

Mr. Chinh admitted Vietnam's leaders had failed to meet goals set at the previous congress, in 1982, while senior politburo member Vo Van Kiet said unemployment, waste, chronic shortages and other economic problems were rife.

"Responsibility for these shortcomings and mistakes rests first of all with the party Central Committee, politburo, secretariat and with the cabinet," 79-year-old Chinh declared.

"The party Central Committee would like to seriously criticise itself for its own shortcomings before the congress," Mr. Chinh told 1,129 party delegates and representatives from 35 foreign Communist parties.

In a speech broadcast live by Hanoi Radio, he spoke of a need to "purify" the 1.8 million-member party and the government, prompting Western diplomats in Bangkok to speculate that purges were imminent.

He said Vietnam's 60 million people remained loyal to the party but they expected it to repair mistakes and renovate its thinking.

## Voyager starts flight around the world

MOJAVE, California (R) — The experimental plane Voyager soared above the Pacific Monday after a rough take-off which its designer said would help the attempt to circle the world non-stop and without refuelling.

The experimental plane, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, carried nearly four tonnes of fuel and supplies for a planned 10-day flight.

It scraped the tips of its huge wings on the runway for some 3,000 metres before lifting off Sunday morning from Edwards Air Force Base.

Designer Burt Rutan, the pilot's brother, said the crew shook loose the damaged wing tips in a series of manoeuvres to avoid further damage and reduce drag on the plane.

"The damage the airplane incurred actually makes it stronger," Rutan said a few hours after he and other project leaders gave the crew the go-ahead to proceed.

"Because it scraped on the ground and reduced its wingspan by a foot and a half (30 cm to 46cm) on either side, it will take turbulence or thunderstorms even better now," he said.

Project Manager Peter Riva, speaking 11 hours after takeoff, said the aircraft performed excellently and the pilots felt fine as they cruised above the clouds on the first leg towards Australia.

"It's doing really well. They've already covered about 1,920 kilometres and will be just south of Hawaii by morning," Riva said.

Rutan, 46, and Yeager, 32, waited on the runway in Voyager's tiny cockpit for about an hour until frost cleared from the plane as the sun broke through the clouds.

Rutan, concerned more about reaching the speed needed to lift off than the position of the wings, inadvertently drove the tops of the flexible wings into the ground as he accelerated, his brother said.

The wing tips, which are fitted with a Rutan innovation known as Winglets, are important for lift-off but afterwards serve no critical role, he added.

Speaking to project leaders by radio, Yeager shrugged off the runway mishap. "Well heck, if it were easy it would have been done before," the engineer and race pilot said.

Voyager is expected to average about 170 kilometres-per-hour on the estimated 43,400 km trip.

Riva said weather forecasts for the route were favourable and barring unforeseen storms, the Voyager should return to Edwards on Christmas Eve.

The odd-looking craft has a 34 metre wing piercing a slender fuselage, with engines mounted fore and aft, one pulling and the other pushing.

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## Leader of Communist Party USA dies

MOSCOW (AP) — Henry Winston, the longtime chairman of the Communist Party USA who lost his eyesight while imprisoned during the 1950s, has died in Moscow following a brief illness, the TASS news agency reported Monday. He was 75.

Winston died Friday at a Moscow hospital where he was undergoing follow-up treatment for an eye operation he received in the Soviet capital several years ago, said Mike Davidson, Moscow correspondent for the U.S. party newspaper People's Daily World.

A son of Mississippi sharecroppers (poor farmers), Winston became active in the unemployed councils during the depression and later in the Southern Negro Youth Congress before joining the Communist Party. He served in the U.S. army in the European theatre during World War II.

Wright outlining his charges against M15.

"Not only did they (the British government) allow Wright's TV programme to go to air, they let it go to air again last week," Powell said.

Wright, whose M15 job was tracking down traitors, also identifies other people as being double-agents.

Earlier in the hearing, now in its fifth week, Powell had accused the British government of delaying tactics, suppressing information and apparent inconsistency in seeking to stop publication of Wright's book but doing nothing to suppress Pincher's book.

In 1981, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said investigations had produced no evidence that Hollis was a spy.

The British government is seeking an injunction in New South Wales supreme court to stop publication of Spycatcher on grounds it could endanger British security.

The government also alleges that Wright is breaking a pledge given by all British intelligence personnel never to reveal details of their secret work.

The judge, in a comparison of present British government attitudes on national security, said wartime Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill probably breached Britain's official secrets act every time he warned of events leading up to World War II.

## Australian judge accuses U.K. of double standards

"One of the great contributions Churchill made to the British people was to get up and thump the tub and say, 'look at what Adolf (Hitler) is doing. For God's sake get off your butts and do something or you'll go down the plughole,'" Powell said.

Powell also criticised the Australian government for stating in an affidavit that Wright's book could present a threat to Australia's national security.

"The evidence espouses views which in my opinion are without foundation," Powell said.

"If through incompetency or deliberate falsehoods the Australian people are being kept in the dark, why shouldn't we be told?" he said.

Powell later said that if the British government would not act on Wright's alleged evidence of Soviet espionage, "it is not in the Australian people's interest for him (Wright) to go and say 'here it is, chapter and verse'."

In closing arguments, the British government's lawyer Theo Simos said much of what Wright had written was already in the public domain and known to the security services of the Soviet Union and its allies.

But he maintained that Wright's book would be the first by an intelligence service "insider" and therefore more credible and damaging to national security.

Mr. Simos will continue his arguments on Tuesday, after

## Leader of Communist Party USA dies

He was sentenced under the Smith Act in 1951 to eight years in prison and was released in 1963. He became the party's chairman that year.

During his time in prison, the party said, he was not treated properly for his failing eyesight and went blind after receiving delayed medical attention.

He was the author of pamphlets and books about the conditions of black people in the United States and South Africa, including "Strategy for a Black Agenda" and "Class, Race and Black Liberation."

He was then a top official in Britain's M15 counter-intelligence service and became director general from 1956 to 1965.

The defection of Petrov was a major coup for the West, said Spy.

"Hollis knew about Petrov several months before Petrov defected," Spy was quoted as saying.

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## 1,500 dirty diapers stolen from doorsteps

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — More than 1,500 soiled cotton diapers were stolen last week, and police say the thefts were not accidental because diapers were taken from at least nine doorsteps. "I can't imagine wanting a stackful of dirty diapers," diaper service customer Veronica Poston has said. "I personally wouldn't even want to wash the things." She lost 30 diapers Wednesday night, the same night as the other thefts. "We have no suspects," said police spokesman George Packney. The diapers were taken from customers of Di-Dee Service of Florida Inc. of Tampa, which makes nearly 1,000 deliveries a day. Police said the "nine customers were called in advance by a man who asked questions about diapers as though he was taking a survey. On Wednesday they got calls from a man who said he was a new Di-Dee driver. He said he would make his rounds early Thursday and asked that the dirty diapers be put outside that night. In some cases, he even asked for directions. Di-Dee owner Paul Fogel, 21 years in the business, said it was the first time thieves have shown an interest in soiled diapers. He put his loss at \$3,000.

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